

Schwarzkopf wins deal for quick release of PoWs and declares big step forward for peace

Iraqi generals agree all allied ceasefire terms

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

TWO Iraqi generals conceded all the ceasefire terms dictated by the international coalition yesterday. General Norman Schwarzkopf, the allied commander, said: "I think we have made a major step forward in the cause of peace."

The allies pledged to pull out of Iraq as soon as a ceasefire was signed and both sides agreed to release all prisoners of war. A "symbolic" release, as a token of good faith, could be arranged very soon.

Lieutenant-General Suhail Hashim Ahmad, chief of operations, and Lieutenant-General Salah Abdou Mahmoud, commander of the Iraqi 3rd Corps in Kuwait, also gave the allied leaders details of minefields and agreed to demarcation lines drawn up by General Schwarzkopf to prevent further armed clashes. General Schwarzkopf was accompanied at the talks by Lieutenant-General Khalid bin Sultan, the Saudi joint commander. Lieutenant-General Sir Peter de la Bilière, the British commander, was also present as an observer.

Before the two-hour meet-

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ing, in a tent at Safwan air base in occupied Iraq, General Schwarzkopf was heard telling a senior officer: "I don't want to embarrass them. I don't want to humiliate them." He then told reporters: "I'm not here to give them anything. I'm here to tell them what we expect them to do."

Afterwards, he said: "We agreed on all matters. The Iraqis came to discuss and to co-operate with a positive attitude. We are well on our way to a lasting peace."

The next step, General Schwarzkopf said, was for Iraq to accept the UN security council resolution passed on Saturday. That called for the release of all prisoners of war before a final ceasefire could be signed, and allowed the coalition to resume hostilities against Iraq if it failed to meet all conditions. The resolution also demanded that Iraq rescind its order annexing Kuwait, an end to fighting, the return of plundered Kuwaiti property, and details of minefields and booby traps.

General Schwarzkopf said yesterday that the Iraqi generals had agreed to give up information on minefields in Kuwait and in the Gulf, "so we can begin operations immediately to make those areas safe."

The two sides agreed yesterday that details of the release of prisoners would be worked out by the International Red Cross, which has not yet had access to allied prisoners in Iraq.

Thirteen allied servicemen are known to be held captive and a further 66 are missing, 12 of them British airmen. Two of those, Flight-Lieutenant John Peters and his navigator, Flight-Lieutenant Adrian Nichol, were paraded on Baghdad television.

A British journalist held prisoner in Baghdad for 40 days said last night that he heard the voices of as many as

six British airmen while being held in jail. Peter Bluff, a member of a CBS television crew, said in an interview with ITN that he heard the men discussing their experiences on the night the ground war began.

The Iraqis have been given the names of all those missing in action and have been asked for details of any who may have died in custody. There have been unconfirmed reports of two prisoners dying while in Iraqi hands.

The allies have taken more than 170,000 Iraqi prisoners, of whom some 800 are in allied medical units. Two are said to have died from malnutrition and dehydration.

The demarcation line drawn up by General Schwarzkopf is designed to prevent a repeat of the clash on Saturday when the American 24th Mechanised Division destroyed 187 Iraqi armoured vehicles. Many Iraqis were killed in the fighting.

In clean-up operations yesterday, allied forces captured another 1,405 Iraqi soldiers, including a brigadier-general and 89 other officers, in a pre-dawn sweep of Faylaka island, off the northern coast of Kuwait. The Iraqi soldiers offered no resistance and the allies confiscated several tanks, combat planes and artillery pieces.

The American military spokesman in Riyadh reported that a further 53 soldiers, again including a brigadier-general, were taken prisoner in ground operations in the battle zone. Anti-aircraft guns, rocket systems, tanks and armoured vehicles were seized. And at the Tali air base in southern Iraq, American soldiers found numerous enemy aircraft in bunkers. They took five Mirage F1 fighters, six Mig21s, one Su22 bomber and eight helicopters.



Islamics say they have seized Basra

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ISLAMIC revolutionaries led by a Tehran-based Shia cleric claimed last night that they had seized control of Iraq's second city Basra.

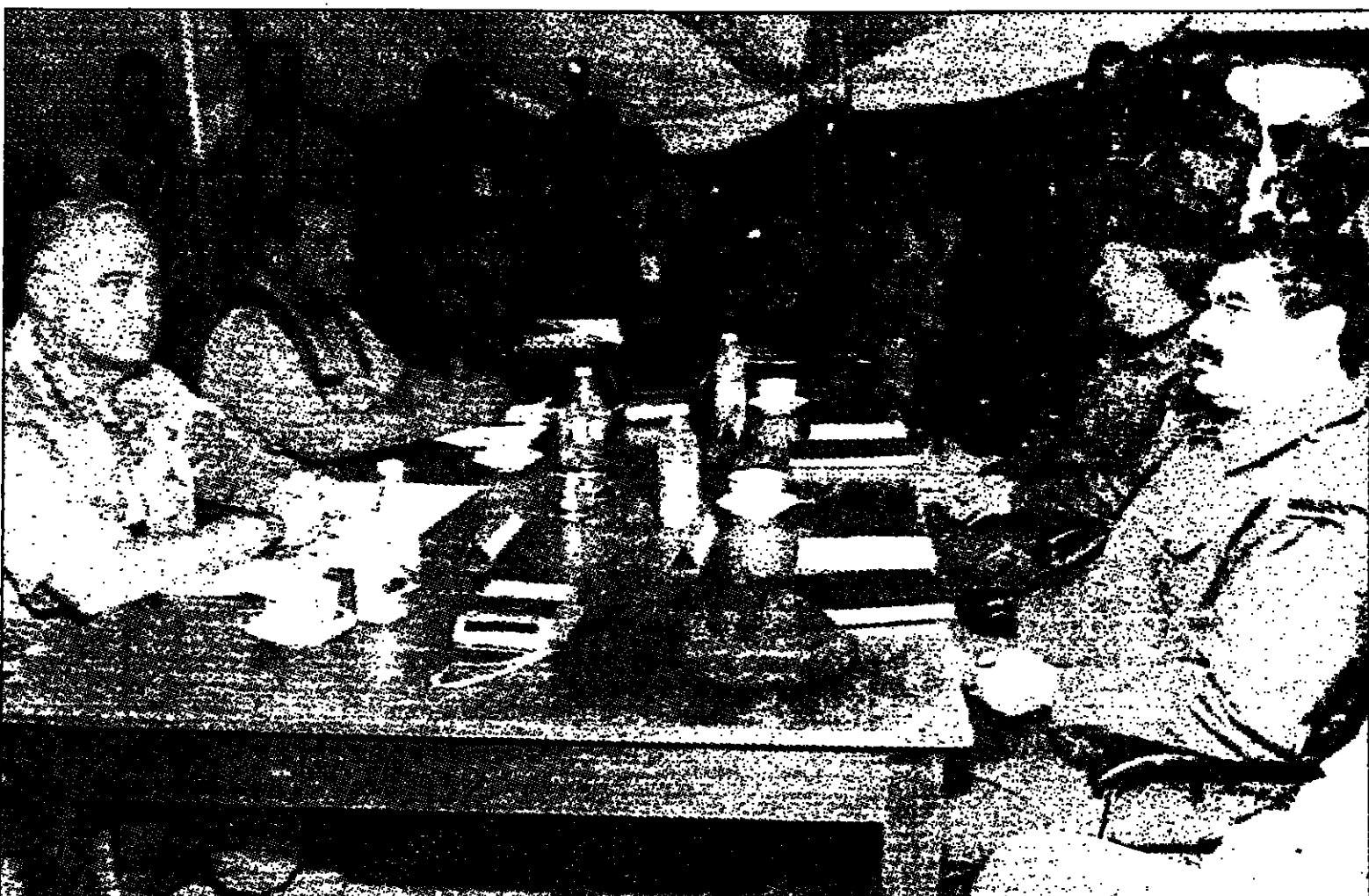
A small party of men saying they were loyal to Mohammed Bakr al-Hakim, head of the supreme assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq and a longtime protégé of Iran, told reporters at the Kuwait-Iraqi frontier yesterday morning that rebels in the city were under attack after 35 hours of fighting.

"The opposition control all the city," the leader of the band, a former called Hamad Ibrahim Wali, aged 32, said through an interpreter. "All

offices of the Saddam (Baath) party, police stations, security areas are all hit by the opposition, we broke the jails and let all the prisoners out," he added. "There are many dead, maybe hundreds."

The supreme assembly said in a statement issued in Beirut earlier that its forces had seized control of several areas in southern Iraq, including parts of the strategic city of Nassiriya on the Euphrates.

Baghdad Radio reported that Saddam chaired a meeting of the Iraqi leadership yesterday to discuss restoring public services after the Gulf war and the latest political developments.



Peace agenda: Generals Norman Schwarzkopf and Khalid bin Sultan meet Iraqi military commanders in a desert tent yesterday

Looters fall on fleeing convoy

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER ON THE BASRA HIGHWAY

THOUSANDS of people turned out to loot possessions and weapons from the stricken Iraqi convoy which fled to the north, and in Kuwait City, Kuwaiti irregulars turned on Palestinians as the initial euphoria of the liberation of the emirate gave way to the uglier aspects of war.

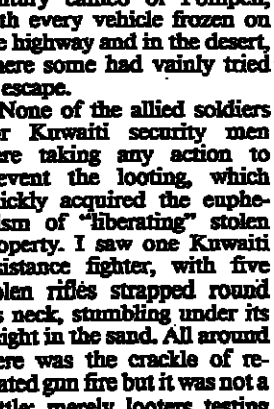
Allied soldiers from a number of countries, including Britain, were still digging mass graves in the desert to bury the thousands, possibly tens of thousands, of Iraqis killed when the retreating convoy was hit from the air by American pilots.

As the killing fields stretching north from Kuwait City turned into the looting fields, questions were being raised about the morality of the attack on the column, which contained many civilian vehicles driven by the fleeing soldiers with their booty stuffed inside.

"The irony is that these people you see scavenging are looting goods that were already looted from them," said one American officer as he watched a large station wagon being filled with everything from dinner services to artificial flowers.

The sight of the thousands of charred and destroyed vehicles - many of which had crashed into each other in the panic to escape the strafing - resembled an appalling 20th century version of Pompeii, with every vehicle frozen on the highway and in the desert, where some had vainly tried to escape.

None of the allied soldiers nor Kuwaiti security men were taking any action to prevent the looting, which quickly acquired the euphemism of "liberating" stolen property. I saw one Kuwaiti resistance fighter, with five stolen rifles strapped round his neck, stumbling under its weight in the sand. All around there was the crackle of repeated gun fire but it was not a battle: merely looters testing the weapons which they had



Westwood: church's job is to hold a service

Britain will honour troops with Gulf victory parade

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND RUTH GLEDHILL

THE prime minister has decided to honour Britain's 34,000 troops in the Gulf with a victory parade on their return home. The decision was disclosed shortly after the Bishop of Durham described the idea of a triumphalist Gulf war thanksgiving service as obscene.

The bishop was immediately criticised by other bishops who praised the government's role in the war and called for a thanksgiving service as an expression of gratitude to God.

John Major has overcome his initial misgivings about a parade in the face of pressure from Tom King, the defence minister, and the military. The prime minister is understood to have been concerned that such celebrations might have been too triumphalist and might be represented as a glorification of war.

Government sources made clear yesterday that the contribution of the British forces to the success in driving Iraq out of Kuwait would not go unheralded. They pointed out that more British troops had been sent abroad than at any time since the second world war.

A senior Whitehall source said: "There will be a parade. Exactly when we don't know." He added that the timing would depend on when the troops were able to return.

"The nation has been fully behind what our sailors, airmen and soldiers have been doing. There has been tremendous support from the nation and this is one way of the nation saying thank you to



They're airline tickets to Europe

them for the sacrifices made and to their families," the source said.

The Bishop of Durham, the Rt Rev David Jenkins, said a thanksgiving service with any element of triumphalism would be obscene. Any such service should be "focused on repentance and looking forward", he said.

In an interview with BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme, Dr Jenkins said that a service should concentrate on the number of deaths, the destruction of the Iraqi infrastructure, the damage done to the environment and the Third World's resultant view of the West. He said that the focus should also be on "repentance for having got into this mess" and gratitude for the end of the conflict, the efficiency of the army, and the small number of western casualties. "At the moment there is all this euphoria over a great victory and we should never have got into it."

Church leaders are anxious to avoid a rift between church and state similar to that perceived after the Archbishop of Canterbury's Falklands war sermon nine years ago. Margaret Thatcher, then prime minister, was reported to be "spitting blood" after Dr Robert Runcie preached a sermon that combined thanksgiving with mourning and a plea for Christian reconciliation. Dr Runcie asked the congregation to remember the Argentinians as well as the British dead.

The Bishop of Peterborough, the Rt Rev William Westwood, said that the Bishop of Durham was insen-

Tories to step up poll tax defence

By DOUGLAS BROOM

TORY councillors and backbench MPs are mounting a vigorous defence of the community charge to defeat plans by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, to replace it with a property tax.

Mr Heseltine was accused by delegates at this weekend's Conservative local government conference of contributing to widespread non-payment of the poll tax by creating uncertainty about its future.

Helena Hart, a councillor for Barnet, north London, said that every party had been united in wanting to scrap the rates.

She urged Conservatives, during their May municipal election campaigns, to defend the essential fairness of the poll tax principle that everyone should contribute to the cost of local services.

Details, page 2
Leading article, page 11

Heseltine's green hopes

Michael Heseltine, in an interview with *The Times*, has spoken at length of his ambitions for environmental policy. He has begun a systematic pursuit of all 352 green policy objectives in the environment white paper produced by his predecessor. Page 5

Kinnock blow

Neil Kinnock's hopes that his support for allied operations in the Gulf would enhance his personal standing with the public have been dashed by the latest Mori poll for *Times* Newspapers. Only one person in 14 identifies him as good in a crisis. Page 2

Haughey accuses

The Irish prime minister, Charles Haughey, has accused Britain of harassing the Birmingham Six by regaining them as top-security category A prisoners on the eve of an appeal hearing which is expected to free them. Page 3

Carey protest

Dr George Carey, the Archbishop-designate of Canterbury faces a possible protest vote from some canons in the Canterbury diocese during the meeting to elect him on Wednesday. Page 3

Croatia clashes

Croatia was given 24 hours by the federal presidency to defuse tension between Serbs and Croats after clashes east of Zagreb. Page 9

Swaps settlement

The Citicorp bank has won a legal battle over disputed local authority interest-rate swap payments by securing an out-of-court deal with a Welsh council. Page 19

Sheffield revival

Once a struggling university, Sheffield has won an increase in funds and students because of its teaching quality, outstanding research and plans for expansion. Page 26

Arsenal win

Arsenal opened a three-point lead over Liverpool by beating the football league champions 1-0 at Anfield. Page 34

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Major is licking the Soviet press into shape

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW



Cool style: Major in Westminster last year

JOHN Major has impressed the Soviet Union with a skill that has gone largely unappreciated in Britain - his deft ability to walk down Whitehall while simultaneously reading a newspaper and eating an ice cream.

The prime minister, who arrives in Moscow late today for his first visit to the Soviet Union since moving to Number 10, has prepared his hosts well. A series of interviews with London-based Soviet reporters has given him the kindest advance billing he could have hoped for. The correspondent who remarked on the then chancellor's ambidexterity noted that Mr Major demonstrated such skill and pleasure "that we all immediately wanted to do the same". The reporter for *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, the Com-

munist youth newspaper, added ruefully: "It is hard to imagine our finance minister walking down Tverskaya [Moscow's main shopping street] carrying a newspaper and an ice cream." Mr Major impressed the Soviet press with his relaxed air, his apparent ordinariness and his approachability.

In one respect, however, his achievements did not impress. *Komsomolskaya Pravda* said: "You can't surprise any of us with the rage to riches - or, in his case, building labour to prime minister - story. After all, we have a president who started out driving tractors." Mr Major's much-praised ordinariness, so impressive in the British context, may be less of an advantage during his day-long working visit to Moscow. Adulation of Margaret Thatcher continues. They see plenty of men in dark suits and ties on television every night of the week, and

Mrs Thatcher was something quite different. People remember with glee how she outclassed the doyens of Soviet television interviewing her on her first visit, defending private enterprise and cruise missile deployment.

Inevitably, Mr Major is being described as "Thatcher's heir", and the Soviet press has discussed what he has and has not taken over from his predecessor. Many also express hope that the "special Gorbachev-Thatcher relationship" might be miraculously transformed into the special Gorbachev-Major relationship.

Mr Major will not, however, have a chance to assess Boris Yeltsin, the Russian leader. There was "no time" to fit such a meeting into the schedule.

Bernard Levin, page 10
Leading article, page 11

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WALKER

HIGH PERFORMANCE PENSIONS

Poll deals blow to Kinnock as Major leads on all fronts

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEIL Kinnock's hopes that his staunch support for allied operations in the Gulf would enhance his personal standing with the public have been dashed by the latest Mori poll for Times Newspapers. Only one person in 14 identifies him as good in a crisis. Across a whole range of leadership tests he failed to make headway as the confrontation with Iraq turned to war.

The Labour leader's lack of progress contrasts sharply with the performance of John Major and Paddy Ashdown. Both leaders emerge from the conflict with their reputations greatly strengthened.

The poll does contain some consolation for Mr Kinnock. The surge in approval for Mr Major and Mr Ashdown is not reflected in support for the parties. The Conservative lead over Labour is down from five points last month to three points and the Liberal Democrats still trail badly. The full figures are: Tories 44 per cent, Labour 41 per cent, Liberal Democrats 11 per cent, Greens 1 per cent and others 3 per cent.

The level of economic optimism or "misery index", regarded as one of the best guides to a government's electoral prospects, is a dismal minus 27 per cent. The poll was taken just before last week's half-point cut in interest rates, and Tory strategists will be hoping that this feeds through into greater sense of economic well-being in the weeks ahead as the prospect of a general election comes closer. It also suggests

that any Gulf effect could prove short-lived. The Gulf was mentioned by 51 per cent as one of the most important issues facing the country, down 14 per cent on last month. Unemployment (37 per cent, up 3 per cent) and the poll tax (35 per cent, up 7 per cent) are also major concerns.

The figures for Scotland, where Labour support is 26 per cent ahead of the Tories, suggest that economic factors will soon reassert their dominance. The two key issues are unemployment, mentioned by 64 per cent of people, and the poll tax (48 per cent); 65 per cent expect the economy to get worse.

With 63 per cent of people satisfied with the way he is doing his job, the prime minister's post-war standing is even greater than the 59 per cent recorded by Margaret Thatcher at the end of the Falklands conflict nine years ago. Mr Major's satisfaction rating is up 26 points on his score in December. Mr Kinnock has enjoyed no such boost with the electorate, in spite of his success in holding his party together on a potentially divisive issue. His rating of 43 per cent satisfied is one point lower than his score in January at the beginning of the war, and only six points up on December.

Mr Ashdown, by contrast, has made steady progress, up from 37 per cent satisfied in December, the same as Mr Kinnock, to 40 per cent in January and 45 per cent now. The Liberal Democrat leader has advanced on a broad

front. Over the past year, he has doubled the percentage of people identifying him as a capable leader, with an understanding of the problems facing Britain and the world and exercising sound judgement. Eleven per cent of people identify him as good in a crisis, five times his 2 per cent in February last year.

Mr Major enjoys the luxury of being ahead of his rivals on all fronts. His scores are markedly higher than Mrs Thatcher's, with the exception of being good in a crisis. He has even overhauled Mr Kinnock on the Labour leader's home ground of being seen as down to earth.

The survey reveals that Mr Major is proving particularly popular with a number of key groups, such as the young and people living in the Midlands, where the Tories are defending a clutch of marginal seats. Of the 18-24 age group, 10 per cent more people think him a capable leader than they did Mrs Thatcher. On this comparison with the former prime minister, Mr Major's scores are up among the DE social class of unskilled workers and benefit claimants (10 per cent), Midlands (10 per cent) and council tenants (16 per cent).

Mori interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,955 adults aged 18 and over at 149 constituency sampling points throughout Great Britain. Interviews were conducted face to face between February 22 and 25, 1991. Data were weighted to match the profile of the population.



Islands under a cloud: a mother escorting her young children from a church service yesterday on Orkney

Community living in fear as ritual abuse case families pray for help

By KERRY GILL

THE troubled community of St Margaret's Hope on Orkney, from where nine children were taken into care last week after allegations of ritual abuse, sought solace in prayer and communion yesterday.

In the small church of St Margaret's more than 50 communicants joined the Rev Morris McKenzie, their Church of Scotland minister, to pray for those touched by the allegations. The scene was made even more poignant as Mr McKenzie, aged 64, and who is recovering from a heart attack, has also been questioned by police.

A mother whose children are in care attended the service and took communion. Later, helped by friends, she was led away from the church in tears. A nurse was in attendance in case the minister should become unwell.

Mr McKenzie offered prayers for his parish of South Ronaldsay and Burray. "We especially pray at this time for those in this parish," he said. "We remember at this time those in this parish, those whose hearts are heavy with sorrow. Visit them with your love and consolation and grant them your peace."

After the service he said: "The social work people are awfully misguided. All of this is absolutely horrific." His

wife, Janette, was also questioned by the police along with three of the four families whose children were taken from their beds early on Thursday morning.

The families will be given the opportunity to attend a children's panel tomorrow in Kirkwall, the islands' capital. They will deny the allegations and ask for their children to be returned home immediately. All say the allegations, based, it appears, on a statement by another child, are ridiculous.

The parents of the children concerned are accusing Orkney's social work department of carrying out a witch-hunt. This, they say, is because they and Mr McKenzie have supported another woman whose eight children were taken into care last November. She still has not seen them.

The Orkney Islands' council is expected to hold an emergency debate tomorrow night

to discuss the seizures. It is the first time they have been officially aired in public. Many councillors have said they are deeply disturbed by the allegations and the subsequent actions by the social work department under Paul Lee.

Mr Lee, the director of social work, has refused to give any public explanation. John Moyer, a solicitor for some of the parents, said a judicial enquiry must be held into the case.

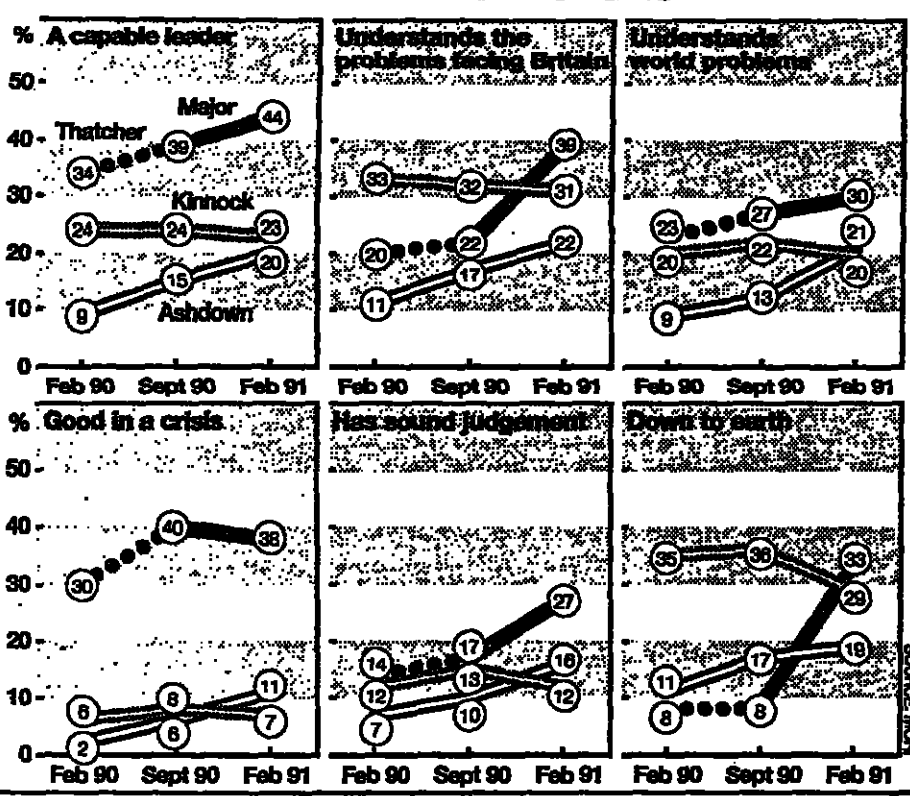
Public meetings have already been held on the island. The biggest, in the Cromarty hall, St Margaret's Hope, was chaired by Helen Martini, a doctor and surgeon. Almost everyone who attended, including some of the accused parents, was shocked by the allegations. They also found them ludicrous in a distressing way. Many parents said they wondered what would happen

to them if they were to criticise publicly the social work department.

One local father said that the parents had been victimised for supporting the family whose children were taken into care last year. Another mother said: "If we stand up for these families we are going to be next. Our children are scared after hearing their school friends have been taken into care in case they go too."

A spokesman for the Scottish Office said a place of safety order for a child could only be issued after the go-ahead by a sheriff or justice of the peace, who had to be satisfied that there were reasonable grounds to justify the action. Parents, he said, had a legal right to attend all hearings. Any objection made by them or a child had to be heard by a sheriff within 28 days.

CHANGES IN LEADERS' IMAGES



Charge of £600 may be group's swansong

By OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

A DECISION this week to set Britain's highest poll tax may be one of the last acts of the hard-left Labour leadership of Lambeth council in south London.

Parallel moves by Labour's national executive and the London Labour party will weaken the grip of extremists within the next two months but will come too late to stop the council setting a community charge of at least £600.

Joan Twelves, the council's leader who publicly advocated non-payment of the poll tax, lost her seat on the ruling executive of the London Labour party on Saturday in a move which reflected growing impatience among moderates at the council's activities.

Meanwhile, Labour's national executive will today begin a formal enquiry into allegations of harassment and intimidation by left-wingers against moderate Labour councillors, which is expected to lead to the expulsion or suspension of leading members of the council.

If a sufficient number lose the party whip the way would be open for Labour moderates to take control in Lambeth in the same way that they have done in Liverpool after the expulsion of Militant councillors there.

A financial package designed to keep within capping limits was rejected last week when the Labour group voted it down. Ms Twelves and senior colleagues are now drawing up their own budget, which would lead to a poll tax of about £600.

Tories rally against plan to abolish the poll tax

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine, the environment secretary, is facing growing opposition from within the Conservative party to his plans for the abolition of the poll tax.

Conservative councillors are rallying in growing numbers to the defence of the charge, arguing that the principle that every resident should contribute to the cost of local services is fair and just and should be defended at the May municipal elections.

Mr Heseltine, who is heading the government's review of the charge, has made it clear that he favours replacing it with a property-based tax based on the floor space of homes.

At the Conservative local government conference on Saturday, delegates representing councils all over Britain made it clear that they favoured the principle if not the detailed practice of the poll tax. The longest applause of the day was given to a member of Barnet council in north London, who, with Mr Heseltine sitting only feet away, defended the poll tax and accused the minister of encouraging non-payment by calling the charge into question.

Helen Hart told delegates: "The community charge is the system that puts the local community in charge. People do recognise it as a personal charge and that councils really are more responsible and responsive to them. Up and down the country councils have been forced to cut out waste. Why do we, as Conservatives, never explain the essential fairness of the scheme."

She said that to abolish the tax would waste billions of pounds spent on setting up the

new system. "We have now got ourselves into the ridiculous position where we have asked the Labour party to help us work out an alternative."

Turning to Mr Heseltine, she said: "Every time you call the future of the community charge into question by stating that nothing is ruled out and nothing is ruled in, the only thing you do is to rule out the remotest possibility of those thousands of people who have not paid their community charge ever doing so."

Douglas Robertson, leader of Surrey county council, said to considerable applause: "I am not defending the community charge. I am promoting it. Replacing it with a property tax would be disastrous, he added."

Mr Heseltine said that he made no apologies for his controversial offer to the

opposition to assist in the search for an alternative. "We have got to break through the circle of confrontation which surrounds this problem."

He would not be rushed into hurried decisions about the future. "The people who have the greatest vested interest in early announcements are precisely those with the greatest interest in harming the long term success of the Conservative party and its policies," he said. "We are determined to get it right and we will take whatever time it requires to achieve that end."

He said that the £1.7 billion community charge reduction scheme would reduce bills for 18 million people. In some areas between 60 and 70 per cent of the population would benefit.

Leading article, page 11



Cello duo: Emma Black, left, from Stoke-on-Trent, and Piz Constantina, from Germany, warming up for final auditions of the European Youth Orchestra at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London

Schools pay cost of generosity

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

INDEPENDENT schools give away more in scholarships and bursaries than they receive in the benefits derived from their charitable status, according to a survey published today.

The first edition of the Independent Schools Information Service magazine, *ISIS News*, found that the 1,200 schools surveyed gained £141 million in business rate concessions and tax relief. All but 100 had charitable status.

Bursaries, scholarships and other grant totalled £54 million. A survey in 1986 showed that schools gave £1.20 of help for every £1 in benefits, compared with £1.32 now. Schools said that increasing numbers of parents could not afford their fees.

A leading article in the new magazine by David Woodhead, national director of *ISIS*, expresses fears for the future of many schools if Labour fulfils its commitment to tighten eligibility for charitable status.

Ronald Brett, page 10

Education, pages 26 and 27

Jobless may have to pay for part of training

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE government is considering proposals to replace its training scheme for the long-term unemployed with a system of vouchers and awards that would for the first time require those out of work to pay for part of their training. Some government Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs), the business-led bodies that in effect run training, are to adopt the plan and others are expected to follow suit.

The government is expected in the Budget in a fortnight's time to bring forward a number of employment measures, including a temporary work scheme and more money for Employment Training (ET), its main programme for the

long-term unemployed. Although ministers are keen to promote the idea of individuals contributing to their training costs, the prospect of the Budget including a tax allowance of up to £1,000 for those who do so seems to be receding. Ministers are examining the proposals put forward by Full Employment UK, an influential policy consultancy that works closely with a number of TECs.

Three TECs - Hertfordshire, Teesside and Greater Peterborough - commissioned the consultancy to examine the scope for converting ET into a system based on training vouchers or credits. The government is piloting a scheme for

training credits for young people. Hertfordshire is consulting about switching to credits, and South and East Cheshire Tec is about to launch a training scheme for low-skilled workers, based on a "pay-as-you-learn" principle, of which Michael Howard, the employment secretary, is a keen supporter.

Full Employment's proposals, details of which are published today in a report entitled *After ET - What Next?* says training credits should be introduced as quickly as possible for unemployed adults. However after a lengthy qualitative survey of 237 unemployed people, Full Employment says credits should not

yet replace ET but should at first be restricted to counselling and assessment and initial training.

Aiming to "change fundamentally the way training is perceived by unemployed people", Full Employment says credits would be offered to cover the cost of counselling, exchangeable with the body providing it. Government-funded awards would be available for occupational skills training but such awards should be granted only to those people prepared to make a "modest contribution" towards their own training costs.

That would be set at 2 per cent of their earnings over a 12-month period, up to half

the training costs. The amount would be repayable by unemployed people once they found a job. Peter Ashby, Full Employment's principal consultant, said the consultations had shown there was strong support among unemployed people for paying towards their own training.

Full Employment says the Treasury should set up a national fund from which TECs and other bodies could bid for grants to help them to develop temporary work schemes for unemployed adults. In addition to supplementing substantially ET, Mr Ashby said the scheme could help towards individual training accounts for everyone.

Pay deal levels starting to fall

THE FIRST independent evidence that the level of pay increases in Britain may have passed its peak comes today in a report suggesting that wage settlements are falling for the first time in more than four years (Philip Bassett writes).

Ministers and the Confederation of British Industry have been insisting for some time that pay deals are now coming down as inflation falls. Last week the CBI reported the biggest quarterly decline in settlements in manufacturing industry for four years.

But such claims have so far not been corroborated by independent pay research analysts, who, unlike the government and employers, have no policy reason for wanting to see settlements fall.

However, a report today from Industrial Relations Services, one of the leading analysts of pay, says that in the three months to the end of January, the median level of rises fell from 9.8 per cent in the previous period to 9.5 per cent.

IRS says that the fall, the first drop in the median level since 1987, "could therefore signal a major shift in the bargaining scene, which has been characterised by significant upward pay pressures in the past few years". A trend towards lower settlements "now seems inevitable".

While the IRS's figures do not show that settlement levels are yet falling as far as claimed by the CBI, whose leaders say that deals in manufacturing fell from 9 per cent to 8.3 per cent, the IRS says that its figures may indicate that settlements have passed their peak.

New editor for the Mirror

Charles Wilson, editor-in-chief of *Sporting Life* and former editor of *The Times*, has been appointed acting editor of the *Daily Mirror*, the publisher Robert Maxwell announced yesterday.

Roy Greenslade, who has edited the *Daily Mirror* since last February, was said to be leaving "by mutual agreement" following the decision to launch a new Mirror Group Newspapers television magazine, to be edited by the former *TV Times* and *Sky* editor Peter Jackson.

Freak whirlwind

Caravans were destroyed and roofs and windows extensively damaged by a freak whirlwind that struck west Wales between Pembroke and Carmarthen yesterday. The roof of the chapel at Llangynnos, near Carmarthen, was blown off. Dyfed-Powys police also said some cars were blown over at Kilgetty. The whirlwind was accompanied by thunder and lightning, hail and rain.

Abortions rise

THE number of abortions carried out in private hospitals in England and Wales rose by 31.4 per cent between 1985 and 1989 compared with 8.5 per cent in NHS hospitals, according to the trade union organisation Labour Research Department. It said financial problems in the NHS and the disinclination of some consultants and GPs to recommend abortion, was forcing women into the private sector.

Prize offered

The National Anti-Fluoridation Campaign has offered a £1,000 prize to the first person who can prove that fluoride in water supplies or in toothpaste improves dental health. The winner of the money, left to the campaign in a will, will also have to prove that raising the fluoride content of water is safe for everyone and that drinking fluoridated water for a lifetime will not cause any harm to teeth.

Crash enquiry

Investigators from the Department of Transport are enquiring into the cause of a fatal auto-gyro crash in Humberside. James Citherne, aged 39, of Northwich, Cheshire, was killed on Saturday when his aircraft plunged 50 feet to the ground at Melbourne airfield near Pocklington, for no apparent reason.

Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings premium bonds weekly prize draw are: £100,000 bond number 12CP 185391 (winner lives in Warrington); £50,000 bond number 9TV 726904 (Lincolnshire); and £25,000 bond number 14BB 514222 (Surrey).

Winning Times averages: 1st prize £100,000; 2nd prize £50,000; 3rd prize £25,000; 4th prize £10,000; 5th prize £5,000; 6th prize £2,500; 7th prize £1,000; 8th prize £500; 9th prize £250; 10th prize £100; 11th prize £50; 12th prize £25; 13th prize £10; 14th prize £5; 15th prize £2; 16th prize £1; 17th prize 50p; 18th prize 25p; 19th prize 10p; 20th prize 5p; 21st prize 2p; 22nd prize 1p; 23rd prize 50p; 24th prize 25p; 25th prize 10p; 26th prize 5p; 27th prize 2p; 28th prize 1p; 29th prize 50p; 30th prize 25p; 31st prize 10p; 32nd prize 5p; 33rd prize 2p; 34th prize 1p; 35th prize 50p; 36th prize 25p; 37th prize 10p; 38th prize 5p; 39th prize 2p; 40th prize 1p; 41st prize 50p; 42nd prize 25p; 43rd prize 10p; 44th prize 5p; 45th prize 2p; 46th prize 1p; 47th prize 50p; 48th prize 25p; 49th prize 10p; 50th prize 5p; 51st prize 2p; 52nd prize 1p; 53rd prize 50p; 54th prize 25p; 55th prize 10p; 56th prize 5p; 57th prize 2p; 58th prize 1p; 59th prize 50p; 60th prize 25p; 61st prize 10p; 62nd prize 5p; 63rd prize 2p; 64th prize 1p; 65th prize 50p; 66th prize 25p; 67th prize 10p; 68th prize 5p; 69th prize 2p; 70th prize 1p; 71st prize 50p; 72nd prize 25p; 73rd prize 10p; 74th prize 5p; 75th prize 2p; 76th prize 1p; 77th prize 50p; 78th prize 25p; 79th prize 10p; 80th prize 5p; 81st prize 2p; 82nd prize 1p; 83rd prize 50p; 84th prize 25p; 85th prize 10p; 86th prize 5p; 87th prize 2p; 88th prize 1p; 89th prize 50p; 90th prize 25p; 91st prize 10p; 92nd prize 5p; 93rd prize 2p; 94th prize 1p; 95th prize 50p; 96th prize 25p; 97th prize 10p; 98th prize 5p; 99th prize 2p; 100th prize 1p.

Haughey protests at 'final harassment' of the Birmingham Six



Haughey: "Insensitive and inhumane" move

By FRANCES GIBB AND STEWART TENDLER

CHARLES Haughey, the Irish prime minister, yesterday accused Britain of harassing the Birmingham Six by re-grading them as top-security category-A prisoners on the eve of an appeal hearing which is expected to lead to their freedom within days after 16 years in jail.

Mr Haughey claimed that the decision was "a final harassment, insensitive and bordering on the inhumane" and said Sir Nicholas Fenn, the British ambassador in Dublin, had been told of the Irish government's anger and dismay.

The Home Office insisted last night that the six — Gerry Hunter, Richard McKelvey, Hugh Callaghan, Billy Power, Paddy Hill and Johnny Walker — are category-B prisoners, and will continue to be treated as such. "It would have been very curious timing if the reports which the Irish government appear to have believed had been true. On grounds of expense alone we are reluctant to make people

category-A prisoners unless it is essential in the interests of security. It means they have to be accompanied everywhere."

The six men's third appeal will be heard today in the Court of Appeal. Last month the Director of Public Prosecutions admitted he could no longer claim their convictions for murder almost 17 years ago were safe or satisfactory. The six were convicted in 1975 of taking part in the bombing of two Birmingham public houses the previous year. They were sentenced to life imprisonment for the attacks in which 21 people died.

The appeal hearing is expected to last between three to five days and to involve at least four witnesses who have emerged as a result of fresh investigations in the past ten months. The case will be heard by Lord Justice Lloyd, sitting with Lord Justice Mustill and Lord Justice Farguharson. Graham Boal, senior Treasury counsel, will appear for Sir Allan Green, the DPP. Michael Mansfield, QC, and Lord Gifford, QC, will appear for the men. One section of the hearing

will examine the validity of tests for nitro-glycerine carried out in 1974 after the arrest of five of the men.

The tests were made using a method known as the Griess test by Dr Frank Skuse, a principal scientific officer with the forensic science service. Dr Skuse said two of the tests were positive. In the years since, there has been debate as to whether the positive results could have been caused by substances other than explosives and about Dr Skuse's methods.

Witnesses are expected to include Dr Alan Scaplehorn, a Home Office scientist, and Dr John Lloyd, a former Home Office scientist who worked with him. Dr Skuse has also asked to give further evidence.

The DPP announced he could no longer rely on the scientific evidence on which the six were convicted in a report last year that it could not be considered positive beyond reasonable doubt. A second part of the appeal will look at police records of interviews with

the six men, which resulted in four signed confessions and two alleged oral admissions of guilt. The DPP announced that he would no longer seek to rely on police evidence.

Last year documents were tested under electrostatic document analysis, which can show fabrications or alterations. The technique raised doubts about records of an interview with McKelvey, which led to the home secretary's decision to refer the case back to the Court of Appeal.

Devon and Cornwall police officers investigating the convictions have interviewed 25 of the West Midlands police originally involved. Former Det Supt George Reade, who led the team, was first interviewed last summer. Two weeks ago he was seen again in Australia by John Evans, the chief constable of Devon and Cornwall. The transcript of the interviews will be studied by the court. Mr Evans may give evidence.

The full hearing of the appeal, on which judges have insisted, is not simply a display of judicial obstinacy. It will be of importance for

the Court of Appeal itself, whose own role will come under scrutiny. At the last preliminary hearing, Lord Justice Lloyd said that it might seem that "the result of the appeals is now a foregone conclusion". The judges did not share that view, he said. The task of deciding whether the verdicts were safe belonged to the Court of Appeal alone, he said, and he made clear it was a function that should be performed publicly.

"It is not enough for us to give our secret blessing to a view formed by the Crown Prosecution Service, even if it is shared by many others, on material which has not yet been made public."

The new hearing could lead to a test for judges to apply when dealing with alleged miscarriages of justice or a redefinition of what constitutes a "safe or satisfactory" conviction.

Mr Boal, for the DPP, said that there were two linked questions there requiring separate consideration: are the convictions safe and are they satisfactory? They need not necessarily be answered

in the same way, he said. However, there is scepticism as to whether a new satisfactory test could emerge 22 years after it was enshrined in the Criminal Appeal Act.

Peter Ashman, legal officer of Justice, said: "Lord Widgery put a gloss on this test of his own, that of whether the court had a 'lurking doubt' about the safety of a conviction. But many judges did not like it and do not use it. There is nothing to suggest judges will be more inclined to apply a new definition if it is not enshrined in statute."

The hearing does give the Court of Appeal its chance to examine fresh evidence publicly and to ensure blame is laid at the doors of those responsible for mistakes or misrepresentation. Finally the full hearing may be principally in the interests of the six themselves. Gareth Peirce, solicitor for five of the men, has said they wanted the compelling evidence which demonstrates their innocence to be known. "What has happened is a national disgrace. It must never happen to anyone again."

Heresy declaration puts Carey at risk of a protest vote

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop-designate of Canterbury faces a possible protest vote from some canons in the Canterbury diocese during the meeting to elect him on Wednesday.

A number of canons have yet to decide how they will vote in the light of Dr George Carey's declaration that it was "a most serious heresy" to oppose the ordination of women priests.

Such a vote against an archbishop by members of the greater chapter of his diocese could be unprecedented, al-

though detailed election results are never disclosed. Most previous archbishops have avoided controversy until after their enthronements. Votes against Dr Carey would not cause panic in the Church of England but would add to the controversy already generated.

Dr Carey won the respect of many senior churchmen by his immediate retraction of the word heresy. Last week he said that he should have spoken instead of "theological error". Clergy in favour of women's ordination have welcomed his statement and are anticipating rumbustious general synod meetings as the proposal nears the deciding vote in 1992.

However, Canon Peter Naylor, who has worked in the Canterbury diocese for 16 years, said: "I think he is also unwise to use words like theological error because it is almost the same thing. What ever we believe, we must not condemn one another. What disappoints me about him is that he is not acting in a charitable way. He is taking a rather firm line. I think he has made an error of judgment."

"I have not made up my mind what to do, but I am obviously disturbed by remarks like that. I have been talking to three of my colleagues on the telephone because we are concerned about it. We think it was a foolish thing to say, at a time when he is about to take up a very difficult job."

The dean of Canterbury, and about 30 residential canons and honorary canons meet on Wednesday to elect Dr Carey under the 1533 Appointment of Bishops Act. The election procedure is considered by many to be an unnecessary formality.

Fr Peter Geldard, who represents Canterbury on the synod and is chairman of the synod's Catholic Group, said that the result was a foregone conclusion. "Some are saying that although it is rather an archaic procedure it still has a value and this is a classic case in point. If some people want to express concern, it is the only opportunity they have."

He said that he had not encouraged anyone to vote against Dr Carey, but the heresy statement had upset wide body of opinion. "I don't think one should become so identified with a cause and castigate the opposition as he did."

The Rev John Macquarrie, former professor of divinity at

Oxford university, said on BBC Radio 4's *Sunday programme*: "Certainly it is an unfortunate start because it does seem to indicate an authoritarian, dogmatic style of worship which I think Anglicans do not like."

Britain's first "Anglican-Catholic" church opened yesterday in a building bought by the parishioners of a former Church of England vicar.

Fr Leslie Hamlett, aged 58, caused a controversy eight years ago when he defected from the Church of England taking his congregation with him. His departure followed a dispute in which he opposed changes, including the remarriage of divorced clergy and the proposed ordination of women.

After years of worshipping in hired halls, the former vicar of All Saints Bank in Staffordshire now has a redundant Methodist chapel at Madeley Heath, near Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire. It will be known as St Mary and St John's and was blessed yesterday by an American bishop from the new International Communion of Traditional Churches, an alternative Anglican body.

Fr Hamlett said: "This is the first Anglican-Catholic church in Britain, but there are now 500 of them worldwide. I would like to see ordination churches for Anglicans and Catholics in every town and city in Britain."



Tailor maids: final touches being made to a set of robes for Dr George Carey, the Archbishop-designate of Canterbury, which has been commissioned from Mrs Juliet Hemmings, of Bristol, who works with a team of eight. Diary, page 10

Car firms call for Japanese curb

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

EUROPE'S six biggest car-makers face streamlining and job cutbacks, with sales expected to decline by 500,000 this year and Japanese manufacturers pushing for a larger share of the market.

Ford, General Motors, Volkswagen, Renault, Peugeot-Citroen and Fiat are warning European Community leaders that an influx of Japanese imports after the opening-up of the single market will be their most potent challenge. The warning comes at a time when they believe new car sales will fall to 12.5 million from 13.1 million in 1990.

As industry leaders gather today at the Geneva Motor Show, they will renew their call for a transitional period of limited controls on Japanese imports while European

manufacturers improve productivity.

With total sales held back by recession across the world, analysts say that those lost to Japanese rivals will force European manufacturers to close plants. Rob Golding, of Warburg Securities in London, said: "Some of the European car-makers are going to lose market share and those that are heavily dependent on their domestic markets, like Fiat in Italy and Peugeot and Renault in France, will particularly suffer."

The Japanese threat is intensified by Honda, Toyota and Nissan investing between them £1.5 billion in "transplant" manufacturing facilities in Britain capable of making 500,000 cars a year by the mid-1990s. Mazda, Ja-

pan's fourth largest motor producer, is also understood to be looking for a British site for assembling 100,000 cars annually.

Jacques Calvet, president of Peugeot SA, is demanding a 10-year transitional period before Japanese cars are allowed free access to Europe.

He told the Economist Intelligence Unit in a report published today: "It will give the European manufacturers the chance to increase their productivity to the extent that it will be able to compensate for the economic and social differences which currently penalise Europe's manufacturers compared with their Japanese equivalent."

Japanese cars are allowed only 3 per cent of the new car market in France, while Italy operates even stricter controls.

In Britain, sales of are limited to about 11 per cent by voluntary agreement.

Even Rover, in which Honda has a shareholding, now supports a transition period. George Simpson, managing director, told the EIU: "Most of the Japanese setting up plants in the UK have mentioned figures of 20 to 30 per cent of output being directed at our home market. This is going to make things much more competitive for everyone but particularly for Rover."

That Europe's car-makers are being overwhelmed by the Japanese tide has been heightened by the precedent set in the United States. Ford, General Motors and Chrysler have been forced to close factories while Japanese ones have expanded dramatically.

Wired missile marks switch in IRA strategy

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

SECURITY sources confirmed yesterday that the IRA deployed a mortar detonated in a horizontal fashion by command wire for the first time in an attack on Friday, the latest incident in a sudden increase in Provisional activity in Co Armagh.

In the attack at Callanbridge, just outside Armagh city, a member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was killed and three others were seriously injured when the mortar struck their armoured Land-Rover, which was waiting at temporary traffic lights.

The mortar, described by the IRA on Saturday in a statement of responsibility as a "directional missile" with a command wire, tore the back out of the Land-Rover and ripped its roof off.

Security sources confirmed that this use of mortars, as a kind of homemade ground-to-ground missile, has not been seen before and represents a new element in the IRA's offensive potential. It was pointed out that remote detonation is likely to be inaccurate and that in Friday's case the Provisionals had succeeded probably only by a fluke.

The Callanbridge attack comes amid what appear to be signs of a new offensive by the IRA in Co Armagh, an area traditionally feared by British troops but which has been relatively quiet for the past 18 months.

On Saturday, for example, Provisionals took over a house in Crossmaglen and launched a five-minute gun attack on the village's heavily fortified police and army base, during which over 100 high-velocity rounds were fired. No one was injured though fire was returned.

That attack follows at least two attempts at shooting down army helicopters in and around Crossmaglen in recent weeks, one of which forced an emergency landing, and an assault on an army observation post 10 days ago.

During that exchange near Silverbridge, also close to Crossmaglen, up to 12 IRA men are thought to have been involved, firing hundreds of machine gun rounds and two mortars, one of which failed to explode.

The gun battle, the largest of its kind since an attack on a border checkpoint at Derry in Co Fermanagh in December 1989 during which two soldiers were killed, lasted 15 minutes but no one was injured on either side.

In what police said was the first incident of its kind, a

woman was shot in both legs on Saturday by a Loyalist punishment squad. Police said a number of men burst into the woman's home at Denmark Street, off the Shankill Road, and shot her. She was satisfactory in hospital last night.

Archbishop Cahal Daly, the Roman Catholic Primate of all Ireland, appealed to the public to put pressure on politicians to stop the collapse of the talks initiative of Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary.

AGENDA

The week ahead

Today Princess of Wales presents Relate Family of the Year awards. Full hearing of the Birmingham Six appeal starts at appeal court. Royal Navy accepts delivery of HMS Marlborough, Duke-class Type 23 frigate, at Devonport dockyard. Michael Heseltine, environment secretary, launches campaign to tell shoppers how to help environment.

Tomorrow The Queen holds investiture at Buckingham Palace. Three detectives involved in questioning of Guildford Four appear before Bow Street magistrates, charged with conspiracy to pervert course of justice. Christopher Chope, roads minister, launches measures to reduce casualties among older pedestrians.

Wednesday Formal election of Archbishop of Canterbury. Launch of British Tourist Authority Winning Words awards. Linares International Chess Tournament. Lords debate Middle East security. Wandsworth poll tax protest.

Thursday Princess of Wales visits Broadmoor hospital. Ribblesdale by-election. Commons debates public enquiry into Piper Alpha disaster. RSPCA annual statistics. Treasure trove inquest in Kilmorynch on ancient gold jewellery and coins. The Times Crossword Puzzle eliminator. Inquest in Newcastle upon Tyne on Corporal Alan Bolam, crushed to death in Gulf.

Friday Duke of Gloucester visits Royal Pioneer Corps in Bicester. Fianna Fail conference in Dublin.

Saturday British Orchid Growers' Association show.

Trials back 'old' heart drug

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE largest medical trial ever held has concluded that a 30-year-old drug is safer and just as effective in treating heart-attack patients as two far more expensive modern ones.

The study, co-ordinated by medical research scientists from Oxford university, compared three "clot-busting" drugs used to dissolve blood clots in the arteries of heart-attack victims and restore normal blood flow. The results, based on 46,000 patients in 20 countries, were presented at the annual scientific meeting of the American Institute of Cardiology in Atlanta, Georgia.

They will add fuel to arguments between the San Francisco-based Genentech company and the Anglo-American SmithKline Beecham. Genentech has complained that SmithKline has used the results of the study in unfair

comparisons of its own Eminase clot-buster with Genentech's Activase, which at present has a 60 per cent share of the US heart-attack drug market.

Last Thursday a Federal judge in San Francisco refused to grant Genentech a temporary restraining order against SmithKline's advertisements, saying that it had failed to prove it was likely to be damaged by them.

Activase, however, was not one of the drugs compared in the survey, known as ISIS-3. The comparison was between a drug similar to Activase but made in Britain by Wellcome, SmithKline's Emboase, and a much older drug, Streptokinase, sold by the German company Hoechst.

According to Rory Collins, one of the organisers of the one of the organisers of the trial, all three drugs are effective at reducing mortality

after a heart attack, but Streptokinase has fewer side-effects and is much cheaper. The study concludes: "Streptokinase is safer since both APSAC (the scientific name of the SmithKline drug) and tPA (the Wellcome drug) caused significantly more strokes from bleeding into the brain."

The summary of the report refers indirectly to Genentech's Activase, noting that a drug similar to tPA is currently "the most widely used clot-buster in the US".

"If US physicians began to use streptokinase routinely instead, this might avoid hundreds of strokes a year and it would save more than \$100 million [\$50 million] a year," the summary says. A single treatment using Activase costs \$2,200 (£1,100), while Eminase costs \$1,700 (£850) and Streptokinase \$200 (£100).

Shall I compare thee to a crater on Venus?

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR



Gertrude Stein: name given to a crater

A ROSE is a rose is a rose is a rose, but a hole in the ground may be Gertrude Stein.

Astronomers naming the hundreds of new features on the surface of Venus which have been discovered by the Magellan spacecraft are running out of women's names. Convention dictates that every recognisable feature on the planet should be named after a woman, who must have been dead for at least three years.

They have already named a group of three craters after Gertrude Stein, the American experimental writer and self-styled genius best remembered for her enigmatic remark about roses. The craters are vast — the smallest of them is more than five miles across — but whether

Miss Stein would have been flattered is open to doubt.

Other distinguished Americans whose names will live for ever on the surface of Venus include the anthropologist Margaret Mead, the novelist Pearl Buck, the playwright Lillian Hellman, the environmentalist Rachel Carson, and the all-round celebrity Clare Boothe Luce. The British list is shorter, with Mary Queen of Scots making a tentative entry.

So far, names for 100 craters have been proposed to the International Astronomical Union, whose job it is to label the many interesting features distinguished by Magellan's radar mapping. By the time Magellan has finished its work, another 1,000 names will be needed.

"The name bank is running low," admits Gerald Schaber, of the US Geological Survey in Flagstaff, Arizona. "We're running out of goddesses."

Candidates so far have been selected from a database of approved names, which include scientists, poets, ballet dancers, and royalty of many nations. There is nothing to stop anyone who wants to from suggesting further names. "They just have to be famous, they don't have to be good," says Schaber.

Suggestions, and evidence that the candidate is a worthy one, should be sent to Joel Russell at the US Geological Service, Flagstaff, Arizona. Living women are excluded.



Mary Queen of Scots: tentative entry

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هك: امن العمل

Heseltin
and the
environment

Pesticides
for wildlife

Soft porn
publishers
make £20m

Heseltine sets dates and targets for environment results

MICHAEL Heseltine, the environment secretary, has begun a systematic pursuit of all the 352 green policy objectives in the environment white paper, produced last September by his predecessor, Chris Patten, which range right across government, from countryside and agriculture policy to energy and transport.

Rather than picking certain areas as priorities, Mr Heseltine has taken the entire list and turned every objective into a target, with a specific date for its attainment. He will carry out the sensitive task of encouraging the efforts of his colleagues in other departments in a new committee, which he will chair, of the "green ministers" each department has appointed. Mr Heseltine declines to talk specifically of the new committee, but *The Times* has learned that its first meeting will be on Thursday. However, in an interview with *The Times* Mr Heseltine did speak at length of his ambitions for environmental policy, and was quick to scotch the idea that the reform of the poll tax is devouring all his political energies. He said: "I am in a no-win situation with the community charge. Public opinion is that I am absolutely bogged down, morning, noon and night. If I say, that's not true, half the population say:



Heseltine: "Let us get going across the board"

Michael Heseltine spells out to Michael McCarthy an action plan for his environment objectives

well, you ought to be. If I say it is true, the other half say I'm neglecting my other departmental responsibilities. The truth is, I am far from being bogged down. We are making progress as much with the environment as with local government."

His principal concern is following up Mr Patten's white paper, criticised by environmental pressure groups on publication last autumn for being insufficiently radical. Mr Heseltine rebuts the criticism. "I have a huge regard for Chris Patten's white paper. To get a comprehensive list of objectives across the whole face of the environment, which becomes the base for government policy, is an enormous step forward."

"It puts a floor underneath what can happen. You cannot sink below it; it is only possible for governments to improve things. By defining areas where advance can take place, it imposes discipline. You can never unpublish it: people will always be able to say, you said in paragraph so-and-so you would do such a thing... what have you done?"

There are 352 such paragraphs making commitments, ranging from the introduction of energy-efficiency labelling on electrical appliances, to the introduction of the theme of "environment and society" into the national curriculum. Mr Heseltine has turned onto that vast corpus of policy his enthusiasm for management science. "I am not saying with the white paper, there are three or four things here I want to achieve. I am saying I want a checklist of all the

proposals, as targets and dates, and let us get going across the board."

The specific target dates will not be published, however. "No manager would give such a million hostages to fortune. If you got to the stage of publishing such things, you would put in lax targets that you could easily achieve, and a timescale you could not fail to meet. But I have got my own monitoring process."

Mr Heseltine is only too well aware that the programme will involve the work of other powerful government departments, jealous of their own prerogatives, yet he does not foresee a succession of cabinet battles, and his attitude hints at encouragement rather than confrontation.

"Every secretary of state knows he has two or three battles in him that he can fight and win. He has to know which ones to choose. If he fights them all there will be a time when he just uses up his credibility. Colleagues are colleagues, and they're not in the business of being constantly under fire."



Battle headquarters: Ickworth, the Marquess of Bristol's seat, where he will fight for permission to build two golf courses on the estate

Village split as marquess takes a swing at business

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE colourful Marquess of Bristol, whose eccentric habits have long been an object of curiosity among his fellow villagers in deepest Suffolk, has stirred fresh controversy with a plan to spend half his £20 million fortune building a vast leisure complex on his 4,000-acre estate.

Residents of the medieval village of Horringer, which evolved to serve

his forebears at Ickworth, the family seat, are deeply divided over the proposals.

Lord Bristol, aged 36, who was deported from Australia last year for failing to disclose his 1988 drug-smuggling conviction and then fined £3,000 in Britain for possessing heroin and cocaine, wants to build a five-star, 80-bed hotel, two 18-hole golf courses, and conference facilities, together with restaurants, bars

and shops. The development could deprive David Cornwell, the principal tenant farmer, of his livelihood and grade-II listed home. "We have been kept in the dark about what is being proposed, except that the farmhouse will become the hotel's administration block," he said.

Sir Reginald Harland, chairman of Suffolk Preservation Trust, is also against the proposal. "This is a specially preserved piece of landscape,

and we are trying to keep the country as the country," he said. However, in the public bar at The Six Bells in the village, many expressed support. "The plan is bound to bring a few jobs," Kenneth Sadler, aged 75, said. Crispin Vaughan, project manager, said: "Developed as proposed, with trees and landscaping, the area will resemble more what existed in the 18th and 19th centuries than is the case today."

Pesticides blamed for wildlife decline

By JOHN YOUNG

INTENSIVE and increasing use of pesticides in cereal fields is threatening many birds, animals, plants and insects, according to a study by the Game Conservancy.

The species depend on the ecological balance in cereal fields for their survival, said Dick Potts, deputy director of the conservancy, in a report on the study carried out in Sussex.

The study, to be published shortly, showed that the cereal ecosystem was "far from the man-made desert imagined by some conservationists", Mr Potts said.

Most of the species the fields contain have greatly declined and are still declining, he added.

More than 700 million hectares (2,000 million acres) of

the Earth's land surface is devoted to cereal crops, he said. Britain has four million hectares (10 million acres), about 17 per cent of its land area and 16 times the total size of all its nature reserves.

Although, compared with many other countries, the British soil and climate are not naturally suited to grain production, cereals have been grown here for at least 7,000 years, and distinct associated flora and fauna have evolved.

Man-made chemicals called halocarbons, similar to chlorofluorocarbons, blamed for damaging the ozone layer, are responsible for the decline of conifers throughout forests in Europe and North America, according to Hartmut Frank of the university of Tübingen, Germany.

Soft porn publishers make £20m

Publishers of glossy sex magazines made more than £20 million in pre-tax profits last year, with the owners of the ten major companies receiving six and seven-figure salaries, the trade union body Labour Research says.

The largest profit, £5.8 million, was made by Paul Raymond Publications, whose chairman, Paul Raymond, was paid £275,000. The largest salary was paid to David Sullivan, director of Roldvale Ltd, who was paid £1,100,720. Roldvale's pre-tax profit in 1989 was £3.1 million.

Labour Research said that by comparison Marks & Spencer's chief executive earned £620,000 last year from company sales of £5.6 billion.

Friends drown

A car that plunged into the Royal Military Canal near Dymchurch, Kent, was being driven by Emma Blanche, aged 16, police said yesterday. She and her friend Andrew Lilley, aged 20, were drowned.

Death enquiry

Detectives were questioning a man yesterday after a 37-year-old woman was found dead at her home in Swindon and her 13-year-old daughter was stabbed in the leg.

Sunken trolleys

British Waterways frogmen have recovered more than 40 shopping trolleys, worth £2,000, from a 200-yard stretch of the Leeds-Liverpool Canal in Bingley, West Yorkshire.

Bang goes a plotter's birthplace

By RODNEY HOBSON

THE recession has caught up with Guy Fawkes. The remains of his birthplace are up for sale, a victim of the fall in the tourist trade.

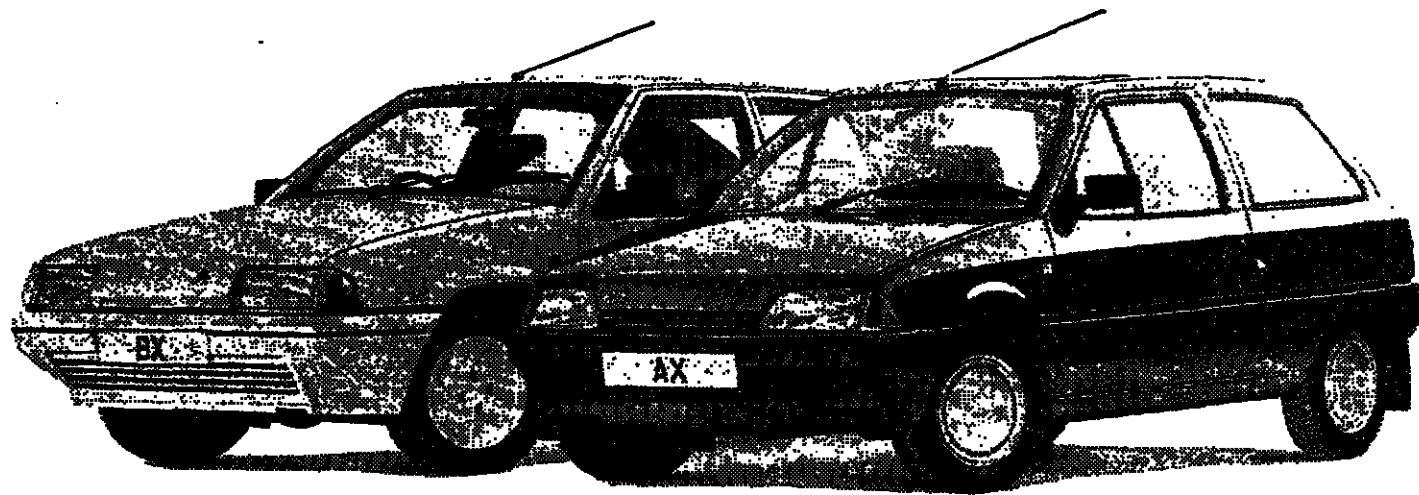
Young's Hotel in York, which incorporates the cottage where Fawkes was born in 1570, has joined the list of businesses being disposed of by receivers.

Oliver Paine, who is handling the sale from the Leeds office of the commercial estate agents Weatherall, Green and Smith, says: "The York city records show that Fawkes was born in a small cottage at the rear of what is now the hotel. The register does not indicate how long he lived there."

Mr Paine says there are clear signs in the hotel's outbuildings that parts date to the 16th century.

Despite his involvement with the Roman Catholic conspirators who attempted to blow up Parliament in 1605, Fawkes was born into a prominent Yorkshire Protestant family. He was the only son of Edward Fawkes, an advocate at the consistory court of the Archbishop of York. When his father died, his mother married a Roman Catholic and Fawkes subsequently became a convert. He was executed in January 1606.

Young's Hotel is a grade two listed building. It stands on Petergate within sight of York Minster. Mr Paine hopes the four-storey building will fetch £500,000.



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Iraqis reap the whirlwind as Desert Rats storm in

THE day after the Gulf war ended, a pair of Soviet-made Frog missiles, huge tracked rockets stuffed with high explosive, were installed before the tent of Brigadier Patrick Cordingley, commanding officer of the 7th Armoured Brigade. All around the compound were other pieces of captured equipment, much of it never used in battle: an anti-aircraft cannon, armoured troop carriers, a Soviet tank or two. The message was clear enough: in less than four days of non-stop attacks, the present version of the illustrious Desert Rats had routed a substantially larger enemy force in a whirlwind campaign.

When the shooting finally stopped, 7th Brigade was deep inside Kuwait, astride the important road junction next to its present encampment. By then it had destroyed about 90 Iraqi tanks (more than a third of those ranged against it), some 80 armoured vehicles and around 30 artillery pieces. More than 2,800 prisoners had been taken and Iraq was estimated to have lost around 120 men in combat with brigade units. Brigadier Cordingley lost four of his own men, with 15 wounded: a toll that would have been dismissed as utterly improbable when he was given the task of breaking through the Iraqi right flank and surging eastwards towards Kuwait and the main enemy forces.

In retrospect, 7th Brigade's crushing victory, small in proportion to the

In less than four days of non-stop action, the 7th Armoured Brigade overwhelmed a much larger force. Philip Jacobson analyses the victory

overall campaign, but none the less dazzlingly achieved, was inevitable when the huge Challenger tanks of the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars and the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and the tough infantrymen of the Staffordshire Regiment first made contact with the enemy and found Iraqis surrendering as soon as firing began. But without the calculated and sustained aggression of the three battle groups, supported by artillery bombardments of overwhelming intensity, the momentum of an assault that covered about 150 miles in an almost unbroken series of thrusts could not have been sustained.

For Brigadier Cordingley, whose affable manner conceals a fierce pride in his brigade and an ever fiercer impatience with sloppiness, the key to success was, in his own phrase, "going in hard and never letting up". At pre-battle briefings he always emphasised that this would reduce casualties and eventually demoralise even the best enemy formations. Now, folding his long legs beneath a bench in his cramped command post, he peered an account of the short, sharp campaign with recollections of "lambasting" artillery barrages, of

the moment when he sent more than 100 Challengers, 60 Warrior fighting vehicles and all his self-propelled guns pouring forward line abreast, of the surging adrenaline produced by combat and the sadness at the loss of human life.

With his quietly spoken chief of staff, Major Euan Loudon beside him, a creased campaign map clipped to the bulkhead, Brigadier Cordingley spoke of his joy when General Rupert Smith, the commander of the 1st British Armoured Division, chose his troops to go first through the breach in Iraq's defensive wall. "We've been here since October and I'm sure all the guys felt, like me, that we had earned the honour."

From that moment, rolling into their jump-off positions, the dawn realization that Iraq's 12th Armoured Division might be swiftly hammered into defeat pushed eating, sleeping and washing into the back seat. Over the brigade radio net on the first day of the British attack, we heard Brigadier Cordingley, Major Loudon and their command staff urging units to keep moving, keep manoeuvring, keep the pressure on an enemy that had absorbed a fearful battering from allied aircraft.



Master of all he surveys: Brigadier Patrick Cordingley scanning the desert horizon from his Challenger tank

Every report of taking prisoners, destruction of the hopelessly outclassed T55 tanks confronting the Challengers, the devastating impact of artillery barrages, seemed to reinforce their conviction that the moment was there to be seized. Although Brigadier Cordingley frankly concedes that considerations of enemy casualties could not influence his strategic decisions, it was clear from the radio conversations that he and his senior commander sought, where feasible, to minimise the bloodshed. Tanks were sometimes instructed to fire what amounted to warning shots to convince the Iraqis to give

up, and on one occasion a psychological warfare team from the US Army was called in to broadcast a surrender offer in Arabic to a position that had suffered a shattering night artillery barrage. About 400 men immediately capitulated. "I think it was at that moment that we realised for sure we were up against troops who were simply unwilling to continue fighting for a cause they did not accept," Brigadier Cordingley recalled. By then, Major Loudon chipped in, the brigade knew it was not facing first-rate formations, but the possibility that the Republican Guard might counter-attack as the ad-

vance continued into Kuwait had always to be taken into account. For the first time, too, there were intelligence reports of T62 and T72 tanks heading the brigade's way: as if to banish any complacency, the Staffords ran into stiff resistance, coming under machinegun, mortar and anti-tank fire. It was then that the brigade's first combat death occurred. "A very sad moment, but who can explain what makes some troops stand firm when others are jacking it in?" Brigadier Cordingley mused. On the third day of fighting, with reconnaissance units of the 16th Lancers and Queen's Dragoon

Guards ranging ahead of the main brigade force, what the military calls a "blue on blue" incident, when an American tank fired on one of the support vehicles and wounded two soldiers, plunged the command staff into gloom. "These things happen in war, especially during rapid manoeuvring, but we were all awfully depressed," Brigadier Cordingley said. "Even the weather seemed to be against us, with huge dark clouds producing a sort of Armageddon-like black shroud overhead." By now, a diplomatic initiative to halt the war was on the cards, and the brigade received orders to hold in position in

anticipation of a ceasefire instead of preparing to attack another objective. "That meant the chance to get our heads down, which sounded wonderful," Major Loudon said. Two hours later sleep was destroyed by new instructions to advance to Point Cobalt, 27 miles away. With two hours left to cover the ground, the entire brigade went thundering forward as one and was in place with 30 minutes to spare.

When the provisional ceasefire was finally confirmed, 7th Brigade was put to destroying as much enemy equipment as possible and rounding up every Iraqi soldier in sight. "It was a time of great exhilaration, mixed with the awfulness of coming across so many Iraqi bodies in cold blood, so to speak, and seeing those tanks and vehicles smashed to bits. Remember, very few of us had ever experienced combat, let alone on this scale."

A couple of hours after Brigadier Cordingley concluded his account of 7th Brigade's war, he gathered his colonels to welcome Lieutenant-General Sir Peter de la Billière, commander of the British contingent. It was a moment for private emotions, so they gathered out of sight in the canteen. When Sir Peter came scurrying out to catch his helicopter, there was just enough time for him to declare that the entire brigade had conducted itself with great distinction. "Everyone knew it would be in the name of the Desert Rats".

KUWAIT CITY

Palestinians rounded up amid fears of backlash

From LIN JENKINS in KUWAIT CITY

FEARS of a bloody backlash against Palestinians in Kuwait City were compounded yesterday when 400 were rounded up at gunpoint. Britons living in Kuwait, the Palestinian district of the city, said some were thrown into car boots by members of the Kuwaiti army. American soldiers watched, but did not get involved.

The incident follows several exchanges of fire in the area since liberation as some Kuwaitis pursue Palestinians in revenge for their alleged collaboration during the occupation. There are still some Iraqi soldiers holed up in houses. Royal Engineers were fired on by a sniper as they moved their base from the remains of the airport to an empty ambulance base.

Iraqi soldiers in hiding continued to be captured, and yesterday there was a report of

another street battle not far from the city centre as Iraqis and Palestinians attempted to evade capture by Kuwaitis.

Michael Weston, the British ambassador, has officially voiced his fears to the government and said that it was sadly predictable that President Saddam Hussein's one victory would be setting Kuwaitis against Palestinians.

"There is no proof that the Kuwaitis are doing anything more than they said they would do, rounding them up and questioning them to see who needs to be tried. It is very worrying. Emotions are running very high. It has always been our concern that this might happen and we have made our fears known on a regular basis," he said after meeting Tom King, the defence secretary, on a visit to Kuwait International airport.

With an estimated 400,000 Palestinians living in Kuwait there is little the government can do to prevent lawlessness. Nine ministers have now returned and Sheikh Saad al-Sabah, the Crown Prince, is said to be arriving within a week, but with disorder running at a high level no date has been set for the return of the emir.

Abdul Rahman al-Awadi, minister of state for cabinet affairs, said collaborators would be given fair trials. "Kuwait has nothing against the Palestinians, except the few who are actually trying to disrupt this life. There are some hard feelings for the people who were seen helping the Iraqis. We can control 99 per cent of the emotion but we as a nation should help control the last 1 per cent."

Susan Abside, aged 31, a

Briton married to a Palestinian, said the community was terrified since no distinction was being made between those who helped the Iraqis and those who did not. "The Iraqis did to the Palestinians what they did to the Kuwaitis. Many Palestinians were picked up. It is terrible that we are going through this with the Kuwaitis after all that has happened. A lot of the Palestinians are loyal to Kuwait and helped in the resistance, but now the Kuwaitis seem out for blood. It is very scary."

Bill McDonald, aged 67, who has lived in the country for 33 years with his Lebanese wife, said: "I think there is going to be a massacre." He added that there was no doubt some Palestinians had betrayed Kuwaitis, giving the whereabouts of some of the 30-odd Britons who remained, and informed on the resistance. The trouble is, they do not seem to be distinguishing between the good ones and the bad ones. People are very frightened."

There are several reports that Iraqis set up tables in the streets loaded with guns to be distributed to the Palestinians shortly before they fled the city.

With Kuwait's population equally well armed, with children as young as 14 brandishing AK47s, the potential for bloodshed is high.

● TUNIS: The Palestine Liberation Organisation yesterday called for urgent measures to halt "aggressions, violations of rights and arrests" of Palestinians in Kuwait.

The organisation "considers that the Kuwaiti government and all Arab and international forces in Kuwait City should assume total responsibility for the protection of Palestinians", a PLO spokesman said.

Reparations, page 10



Goodbye to all that: an elderly POW after being freed by his US captors in Kuwait, Iraq

Baghdad recalls brigades

Riyadh — Iraq is moving two mechanised brigades from its northern borders towards Baghdad, possibly for use if fighting resumes, a senior allied officer said yesterday. The Iraqi units were almost within 60 miles of Baghdad, he said, and speculated the movements were designed to "protect the regime and to counter [a possible] resurgence" in allied attacks.

The withdrawal from the Turkish and Iranian border areas comes as the surviving remnants of President Saddam Hussein's army in southern Iraq creep north. These forces amounted to about a division's strength, but the men and materiel were from scattered units, he said. The largest unit to escape the war is believed to be a brigade.

One of the two mechanised brigades moving south belonged to Iraq's Republican Guard, the officer said. He believed Saddam was unlikely to bring these units into Baghdad itself for fear that they could be used in a coup attempt. (AP)

● BAGHDAD: Iraqi television yesterday released film of a smiling Saddam in his first televised appearance since early in the Gulf war. The 45-second videotape was filmed on Saturday at a meeting between Saddam and three aides to discuss restoring public services. (Reuters)

Desert forces praised by King

The Gulf — Tom King, the defence secretary, arrived in Bahrain yesterday to congratulate British servicemen and pledged that no ceasefire would be signed until their captured comrades were freed by the Iraqis. He thanked air crews and ground staff who kept them flying for their part in the war.

Mr King climbed to the top of a ladder normally used by pilots to get on board their planes to put across his message that peace terms were "not negotiable" at the ceasefire talks. "We are not going to have a ceasefire unless we get our POWs back," he said. Packed into a hangar, the men and women of the RAF heard him in silence.

After his visit to Bahrain, the defence secretary went on to see troops in Kuwait, where he told them they would be home soon. He said Operation Desert Storm was a "brilliantly organised... extraordinary campaign". Mr King is also to visit a Royal Navy warship and Saudi Arabia.

Church censure

Rome — The Catholic patriarch of Iraq, a key participant in a Vatican summit on the war, has accused the American-led allies of genocide and "the destruction of a nation". Raphael Iridawid, the Patriarch of the eastern Chaldean Rite, also insisted that Israel must be made to understand that Middle East peace was impossible without the establishment of a Palestinian homeland. (Reuters)

PLO base raid

Sidon — At least four Palestinian fighters were injured as Israeli warplanes raided a base held by Fatah, the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organisation group, in southern Lebanon, police and Palestinian sources said. It was the first Israeli raid on a Palestinian position in a region of southern Lebanon where the Lebanese army has been deployed since February 7. (AFP)

TV team arrives

London — Four CBS television newsmen arrived in Britain after 41 days of Iraqi captivity and went straight into hospital for two to three days of medical checks. The four were released in Baghdad on Saturday. They had been picked up by an Iraqi army patrol on the border between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait on January 21 and "interrogated closely" on why they were in a military area. (Reuters)

Street cred

Jerusalem — The city's deputy mayor, Emanuel Zimman, wants to name a street after General Norman Schwarzkopf, but the American commander fails to qualify: he is alive. Municipal policy says a person must be dead for three years before such an honour can be awarded. (AP)

RULING FAMILY

Crown Prince to go home

By MICHAEL KNIFE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

KUWAIT'S Crown Prince, Sheikh Saad al-Sabah, is to return to the emirate within a few days to head the reconstruction effort, said Abdul-Rahman al-Awadi, the minister of state for cabinet affairs, at the weekend.

The move is expected to head off criticism that the speed of the royal family's return has not matched the speed of its departure after the Iraq invasion in August. Dr al-Awadi said the Crown Prince would be followed later by Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah, the emir.

Nine cabinet ministers returned on Friday and, speaking later at the first official Kuwaiti government news conference on Kuwaiti soil since the liberation, Dr al-Awadi said it would have been counter-productive to have brought members of the government back earlier because of the chaotic security situation and the lack of communications, power and transport.

In spite of official pleas to exile Kuwaitis not to attempt to return before basic amenities had been restored, hundreds of Kuwaitis jammed the roads into the emirate from Saudi Arabia at the weekend. Arab military officials and the civilian Kuwaiti resistance movement saw Kuwaitis who fled the invasion should await word from the military or their government on when it was safe to return. Many ignored the warnings, however, causing officials to close the Saudi-Kuwaiti border to anyone without official business.

Colonel Ahmed al-Robayan, a Saudi spokesman for the Arab forces in the allied coalition, said that the Arabs had divided Kuwait City into



Waiting: The Emir of Kuwait three sections and were searching for mines. He said it would take at least three days to clear Kuwait City, perhaps longer, and longer still to clear outlying areas. He said authorities were worried that Kuwaitis heading home would drive off damaged roads and travel over uncharted areas that could contain Iraqi mines.

The first Kuwaiti ministers to return were not named, but were believed to have included the ministers of defence, interior, transport and education, some of whom are members of the ruling family.

A French army unit yesterday began clearing mines from Bayan palace, one of several residences used by the emir before the invasion. Earlier, mine-clearing and repair work began at the Dasman and Sier palaces. Some of the heaviest fighting between Kuwaiti and Iraqi troops on August 2 occurred around the Dasman palace.

Dr al-Awadi emphasised that the government had no plans to seek vengeance against Palestinians in the emirate. All those accused of collaboration would be brought to trial. He also repeated the emir's pledge to hold elections.

Air power paves way to victory on the ground

A battered and demoralised enemy was testimony to the vital role of allied bombing in bringing the war to a swift end, Michael Evans writes

ALTHOUGH the war to liberate Kuwait was finally brought to a close by the mobility, ferocity, firepower and tactical manoeuvring of the allied armoured divisions, the principal roles in the 42-day battle for Kuwait were played by the bombers and strike helicopters. They reduced President Saddam Hussein's army to a state of terror, hunger and demoralisation.

Every aircraft involved in the allied bombing campaign, since the early hours of January 17, contributed to the overwhelming defeat. Although military spokesmen gave bomb damage assessments in daily bulletins, the real impact of the bombing became apparent only as the first allied tanks drove through Iraqi defences into Kuwait. They found abandoned foxholes, bodies by the thousands, burnt-out ar-

moured vehicles, on the road to Basra provided proof that the Iraqis were desperate to leave the battlefield. There were fears at the time that they might try to regroup, but such fears proved groundless.

The only aircraft which had a "disappointing" war were the air defence fighters, such as the RAF's Tornados F3s. They carried out combat air patrols throughout the war but seldom encountered their Iraqi counterparts. Knowing that he might lose his air force if it engaged in dogfights with American F15s, F16s and British Tornado F3s, one of Saddam's first

decisions was to dispatch his best fighters to Iran, removing his MiG29 Fulcrums and Mirage F1s from the theatre of operations. But the allied bomber force, from the old reliables like the B52s and the tank-busting A10 Thunderbolts, to the most advanced F117A stealth fighters, performed with devastating effect. Only one B52 was lost, as it returned from a mission to its base at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. Another B52 was forced to shed its bomb payload in the Mediterranean.

The allied aircraft which suffered the most losses were the RAF's Tornado GR1s. They had the most dangerous mission of all, flying in below 100ft to drop JP233 "runway denial" bombs on air bases. Seven of the strike aircraft were lost, six of them in combat,

although not all were lost during low-flying raids. The total number of allied aircraft lost was 46 out of more than 2,100.

The breakdown of losses, including helicopters, was: in combat, 27 US fixed-wing aircraft, five US helicopters and nine allied aircraft; in non-combat, eight US fixed-wing aircraft, 14 helicopters, and two allied fixed-wing aircraft.

Soon after the air campaign began, senior military sources expressed confidence that Saddam would be defeated because the allies achieved air superiority after three or four days, and air supremacy soon after. Once Iraq's air force gave up the fight, it was only a question of time before its ground forces would be defeated. In saving part of his air force, Saddam sacrificed his army.

Military experts, noting that General Schwarzkopf said thousands of Iraqi tanks had been destroyed, expect Iraqi dead to number between 50,000 and 100,000.

Few pictures emerged of the bloodshed in the Gulf as information officers in the Middle East directed photographers during the height of the war to the dramatic sight of tens of thousands of Iraqi prisoners of war.

General Schwarzkopf said thousands of Iraqi tanks had been destroyed, expect Iraqi dead to number between 50,000 and 100,000.

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

UNITED STATES

Baker puts Arab-Israel dispute top of agenda

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, signalled yesterday that he will press Israel this week to come up with a plan to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict but emphasised that Washington is prepared to help only if both sides are committed to peace.

As Mr Baker prepared to meet leaders of Israel and Arab states loyal to the US-led anti-Iraq coalition this week, he said that he had "a gut feeling this conflict is one that both sides would now like to see resolved". He added that an American proposal would be "shot up like a Scud missile with a couple of Patriots. We have said many times that we can be effective as a catalyst. But they've got to want a solution."

Mr Baker will travel to Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Israel, Turkey and the Soviet Union this week to discuss regional security in the Middle East, arms control and proliferation and economic co-operation. In an interview with NBC News, Mr Baker said he would also ask America's Arab allies what role they would like Washington to play in a permanent peace-keeping force in the region. He said it was "not unreasonable at all to talk about an enhanced US naval presence", but he emphasised President Bush's view that American ground forces should return home as soon as possible and that the bulk of a peace-

keeping team should be made up of Arab troops.

He expressed a hope that the end of the Gulf war presented a favourable backdrop against which to work for a resolution of the conflict. American-brokered efforts to resolve the conflict collapsed almost one year ago, bringing extra tension to difficult US-Israeli relations. The failure was also seen as a personal blow to Mr Baker.

President Bush's prestige among Arabs and Israelis as a result of the successful conclusion of the war against Iraq has enhanced his administration's bargaining power in the region. Mr Bush, speaking on Friday at his first news conference since the Gulf ceasefire, said that he wanted to "move fast" to address long-standing problems in the Middle East, especially the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Mr Baker, speaking on NBC news, said: "We've done everything in the region a great favour, including the Israelis. We ought to try to take advantage of those opportunities... but we're not in a position to impose peace."

He also suggested that Washington would rely on King Hussein of Jordan as it explored a "two-track approach" to enable the Israelis and Palestinians to start a dialogue to help Israel and the Arab states to improve diplomatic relations.

The Jordanian monarch annoyed Washington during the Gulf war, but he is a likely spokesman for Palestinians in a potential dialogue since Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, lost credibility among Arab leaders during the Gulf crisis.

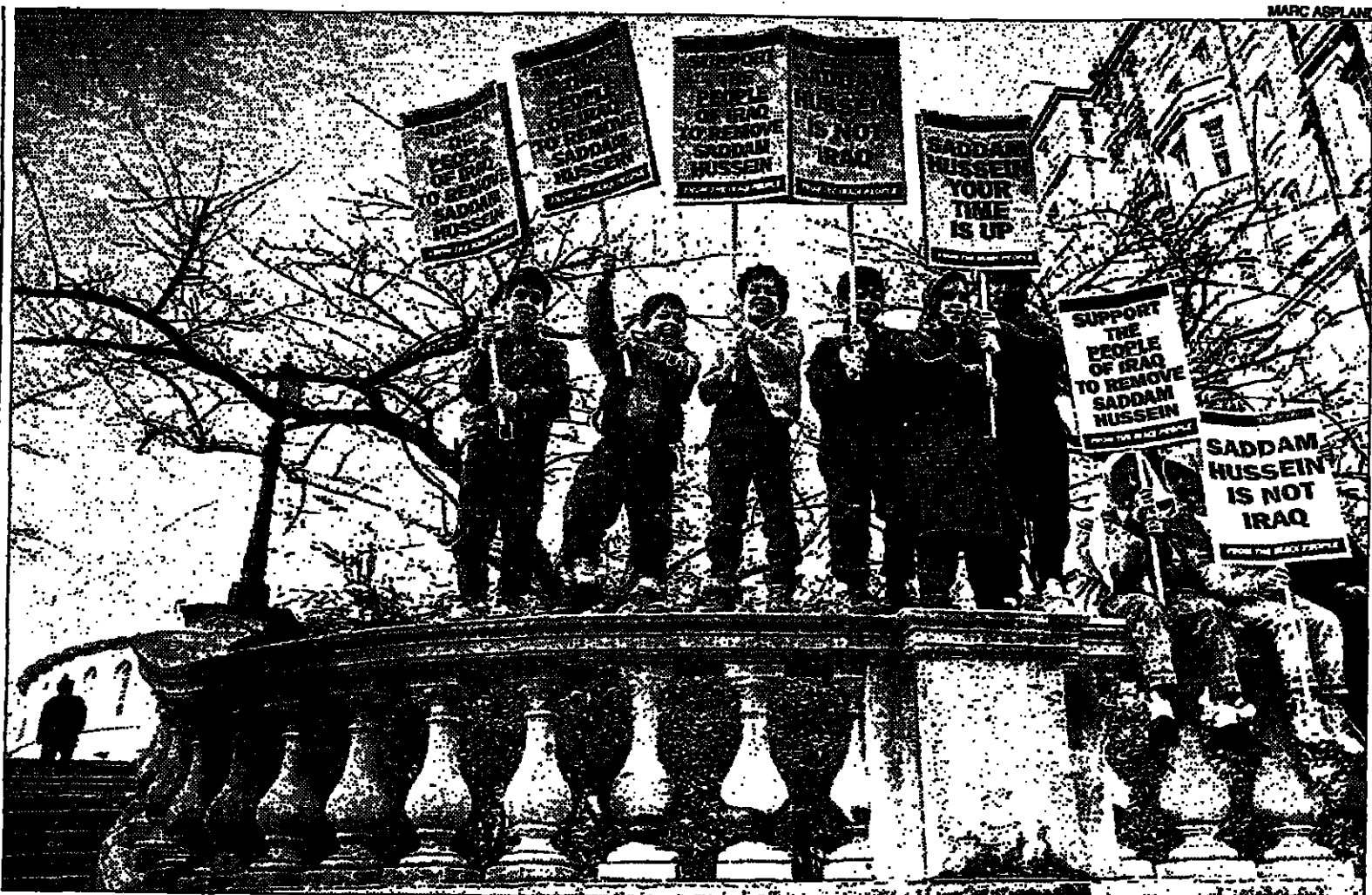
Mr Baker said regional allies had told him that the PLO chairman was "seriously and severely hurt", but added that he was "not a player or a party in the 14 months of (peace) efforts we made before" the Iraqi invasion. National polls in America show that public expectations of Mr Baker's trip are high. In the wake of the allied military success against Iraq, a majority of Americans hope to see Washington achieve some lasting results in the Middle East, including a peace conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, Arab nations being persuaded to recognise Israel's right to exist.

Mr Baker has made it clear that he regards the dispute between Arabs and Israelis as "a truly intractable problem through many years".

America's euphoria is tempered with a growing fear that the decisive defeat of Iraq may over-inflate national confidence and public support for US intervention overseas.



Baker: sees opportunity to break the deadlock



Generation of protest: children among the 300 Iraqi expatriates who staged a silent march from Speakers' Corner to the steps of the Albert Memorial yesterday (Robin Young writes). Many carried black banners, mourning the dead in the

Gulf war. Others held placards calling for support for the Iraqi people in overthrowing President Saddam Hussein. "The Iraqi people are totally against Saddam Hussein," said Delair Adib, aged 30. "But since the Baath party came to

power, Iraq has been a police state with Saddam's secret police everywhere. We want to show that Saddam is not the true Iraq. We are all Iraqis with one thing in common. We want to see Saddam out of our country." Among the demonstrators

was Abdul Karim al-Uzri, aged 80, a former Iraqi minister of finance. A Home Office spokesman said yesterday that 164 Iraqis and 12 others had been served with notices of intention to deport since the invasion of Kuwait last August.

UNITED NATIONS

Ceasefire terms keep open option of renewed war

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE UN Security Council spelt out the terms for a permanent ceasefire in the Gulf at the weekend, leaving open the possibility of a resumption of hostilities if they are not fulfilled by Iraq. The council voted 11-1, with three abstentions, to impose conditions on Iraq, including the release of all prisoners of war and civilian detainees and the return of plundered Kuwaiti property.

Describing the resolution, number 686, as a watershed, Thomas Pickering, the US ambassador, said: "Aggression has been beaten, firmly and decisively." The US-drafted resolution combined conditions laid down by President Bush when he announced the suspension of hostilities on Wednesday with demands that Iraq implements all 12 previous security council resolutions on Kuwait.

Rather than declaring a formal ceasefire, the resolution lays down conditions for achieving one, leaving the initiative with the coalition rather than with the council. That left several nations unhappy, and the resolution passed with fewer votes than any of the earlier resolutions, which all obtained the support of at least 12 members.

Cuba cast the only negative vote after unsuccessfully proposing 18 amendments calling for an immediate ceasefire, the dispatch of UN military observers, and new efforts by the UN secretary-general to re-establish peace and security in the region.

China was the only one of the five permanent members of the council to abstain. Yemen, the only Arab member of the council, and India, which joined after Resolution 678 authorising the use of force was adopted, also abstained. Some Third World delegates described the American draft disparagingly as the "surrender resolution".

After dictating ceasefire terms to Iraq, the resolution warns that resolution 678 remains in effect until they are fulfilled, so that the allies can legally resume hostilities. But it also contains a commitment to maintain the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Iraq and notes that the coalition plans to remove its forces as soon as possible. Taking note of Iraq's acceptance of all 12 security council resolutions, the text says that means Baghdad must rescind its annexation of Kuwait and accept in principle its liability for war damages. It demands

that Iraq return prisoners of war immediately as well as any looted Kuwaiti property, and insists that it release all detained Kuwaitis and stop any further military action.

The resolution also requires Iraq to return the remains of the fallen and assist coalition forces in identifying mines, booby traps and chemical and biological weapons.

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EGYPT

Mubarak looks for a new dawn

FROM REUTER IN CAIRO

PRESIDENT Mubarak of Egypt said yesterday the end of the Gulf war had brought "a new dawn" in the Middle East and he called on Arabs to join a new world order based on peace, democracy and economic competition. Egyptians had no quarrel with the Iraqi people and would help to rebuild their country.

He accused President Saddam Hussein of ordering his army to commit suicide "while he was hiding in his bunker" and said the world would never forgive him. "A

page has been turned and a new page begun. The days of darkness have gone and a new dawn risen before us. The horrible tragedy has ended. Kuwait has been liberated," Mr Mubarak said in a one-hour televised speech.

"From this platform I call on the fellow Iraqi people, to the Iraqi army and to all those upon whom this war was forced... The Egyptian people are the brothers of the Iraqi people, and this brotherhood will not be wiped out by the act of one individual."

Disaster threatens 40 poor nations

London — More than forty developing countries are facing the economic equivalent of a natural disaster because of the Gulf war, according to an independent report published today. Sixteen of the countries have lost between 2 and 25 per cent of their gross national product because of the war (Michael Knappe writes).

Six British aid agencies, which commissioned the report from the Overseas Development Institute, have asked the world community to provide assistance. Estimates of the direct cost of the conflict to the countries is said to be in excess of \$12 billion (£6.3 billion). The main problems include rising oil prices, higher transport and freight costs and their effect on prices. In addition hundreds of thousands of migrant workers have fled the Gulf.

Iran sends envoy

Nicosia — Iran said it was sending its ambassador back to Kuwait. President Rafsanjani said relations with Gulf Arab states were entering an era of co-operation. He added that Iran wanted security to be restored in the Gulf. (Reuters)

Assets freed

Paris — France has lifted its freeze on Kuwait's assets, according to an announcement published in the Official Journal. The decision was taken by Pierre Bérégovoy, the finance minister. Iraqi assets remain frozen. (AFP)

Synagogue blast

Manila — Suspected pro-Iraqi radicals exploded a bomb outside a synagogue here. Israel's ambassador said it was an act of revenge for Iraq's defeat in the Gulf war. It was the third bomb attack here in six weeks. (Reuters)

Conference offer

Athens — Greece has offered to host a Middle East peace conference. It believes two conferences should be organised, one on the Palestinian issue and the other on regional problems. (AFP)

ISRAEL

Shamir reaffirms peace plan

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN JERUSALEM

THE Israeli government began outlining its postwar political strategy yesterday by reaffirming its 1989 peace initiative. The plan — which would lead, at best, to limited autonomy for the 1.6 million Arabs in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip — has been rejected by the Palestinians, who want independence.

Still, Israel needs something on the table when James Baker, the American Secretary of State, visits Jerusalem during his Middle East tour. The White House has made it clear that with the Gulf war largely behind it, resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian problem is next on the agenda.

At yesterday's cabinet meeting, Yisrael Neuman, the science minister, urged the government to punish the Palestinians for their support of Iraq in the war by ending any efforts to make peace with them. Instead, he argued, Israel should try to get bilateral talks going with Saudi Arabia and, possibly, Kuwait. He argued that both nations could use Israel's technical know-how in reconstruction.

Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, won the backing of the majority of the cabinet to keep on the table his 1989 peace plan, but promised a debate on other proposals.

● Talks welcomed: Israel would be pleased to have direct talks with Saudi Arabia, with which it is officially still at war. Moshe Arens, the defence minister, said yesterday. (AFP)

GERMANY

Conflict forces policy review

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

THE outcome of the Gulf war is forcing a basic change in German foreign policy. Individually, Germans are paying more in cash towards its cost than taxpayers in any other country in the coalition. But senior politicians of all parties here are convinced that never again must the country be prepared only to offer its wealth as its contribution to the maintenance of justice in the world.

Although President Bush at the weekend praised Germany's willingness to pay, Bonn recognises that in Washington's eyes, Britain has regained European leadership as a result of sending a strong contingent to fight against President Saddam Hussein.

Volker Rühe, the general secretary of the Christian

Democrats (CDU), said after returning from America at the weekend that a united Germany must undertake a greater responsibility for world policy. "We must understand that we can no longer simply say: 'Hold course as before'. We must ask ourselves if we ought to behave quite differently, like the French and British. Germany's reputation will depend in future not only on our financial strength, but also on how far we are ready to undertake international responsibility."

The key to the matter is Germany's Basic Law, which is widely interpreted as prohibiting the Bundeswehr from serving outside Nato territory. Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, has accepted this interpretation by promising to

try to amend the constitution so that in future, Bundeswehr units will be able to serve under the UN flag anywhere in the world. Such an amendment would require a two-thirds majority of the Bundestag, which means that it must be supported by a significant number of members of the opposition Social Democrats (SPD).

Until now, the majority of SPD members have not been prepared to approve such a change, arguing that it is wrong for Germany to send troops abroad and that peace is better maintained by other means. That view inside the party is undergoing a radical change in the wake of the war, widely seen as having been necessary. Polls show that over 70 per cent of Germans

supported the military action against Saddam, which suggests that the SPD can no longer win votes by backing a "peace at any price" policy.

Günther Verheugen, a member of the party executive, will be put in charge of a special SPD working group today to study how to strengthen the UN in a way that will enable it to stand up to international lawbreakers.

"If a reformed UN must take action against international lawbreakers using military means as a last resort, then the Germans cannot stand aside," he said in an interview with *Bild am Sonntag* yesterday. He added, however, that in such circumstances Germany should have a greater say inside the UN Security Council.

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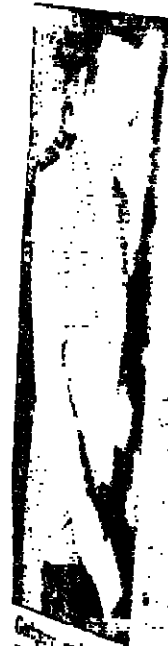
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Castro takes the low-tech road to socialism or death

From CHARLES BRENNER
IN NEW YORK

WHILE America has been busy dealing with a dictator on the other side of the world, President Castro, the nemesis in its own backyard, has been indulging in such fits of anti-American rage that Cuba watchers are wondering whether mania may finally be getting the better of him.

For months, Dr Castro has been pleading to his long-suffering people to continue down the road to "socialism or death" rather than succumbing to the evil of capitalism or following the "local mistakes" of his East European allies. "If they told me that 98 per cent of the people did not believe in the revolution, I would carry on fight-

ing," he proclaimed late last year, shortly before announcing that trained bulls and oxen would do the work of polluting tractors.

The arrangement, prompted by the drop in cheap Soviet oil supplies, is part of what Dr Castro calls his "peacetime special period" — a form of survival programme for "scientific socialism". Other elements include strict food rationing and the distribution of several hundred thousand Chinese bicycles to supplement cars on the streets of Havana.

Just days ago, with the hated Yanquis "butcher" the peace-loving Israeli people, as Dr Castro put it, he delivered an anti-American tirade that appeared to quash speculation that the supreme leader, aged 64, might consent to a

few market reforms when the party meets for a congress later this year. It will be the first such gathering since he stormed to power at the head of his revolution in 1959.

"Use capitalist methods? That would be crazy," Dr Castro told a Communist party meeting in Havana. "We ought to develop a vaccine against the madness that is capitalism." Capitalism, he said, had not been able to solve any human and social problems. Capitalist countries were a sea of prostitution, drug-addiction, social alienation or poverty. "Capitalism has nothing to offer the world." The United States and its emulators simply offered "every day more degeneracy, more sex, more vice, more violence".

In his desperation and isolation,

Dr Castro and his politburo have been resorting to ever more eccentric schemes to enforce the survival of pure socialism against the threats from within and without.

He has repeatedly told visitors that he believes that the collapse of "socialism" in Eastern Europe was due to the mistake of allowing partial capitalist measures. "When you open the window, you let in not only fresh air but flies," he lectured a Chinese visitor about the mistakes of the Peking leadership.

Among the latest schemes are the promotion of pig-breeding by ordinary citizens and a plan to move the bulk of the population to the countryside where they are to grow their own food and live on their own. "Most of these inherently unworkable schemes are retreats

from the giddy 1960s, when they proved spectacular failures," said Roger Fontaine, a former member of the US National Security Council. "With the exception of Pol Pot's Cambodia, even the communist world has seen nothing quite like it." Dr Castro's pride and joy are its ambitious programmes of biomedical research. He hopes to make Cuba a world leader in hi-tech genetic products.

On top of his country's economic agony, inflicted since Soviet and East European subsidies withered to a fraction of their former level, Dr Castro is facing an image problem. Late last year, the Soviet press reported intimate details of his very secret private life and this month, an American-published biography has followed up with far

more lurid detail, including first-hand interviews with women, who claim to have been his bed partner.

According to a defuncting intelligence officer, the Cuban secret service went to inordinate lengths to prevent publication of *Guerrilla Prince: The Untold Story of Fidel Castro*, by George Anne Geyer. Ms Geyer, a veteran Cuba watcher, spent years digging into the mysteries of Dr Castro's life. She depicts the *jefe maximo* as manically obsessed with grandiose projects, rather than Nicolas Ceausescu of Romania was. Among them was making the best camembert and freezing Cuba entirely of weeds.

Dr Castro manages to preserve his power through a projection of a sense of mystery rather than the Wizard of Oz, Ms Geyer concludes.

Murder of minister shakes Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is facing a period of uncertainty after the assassination of the man who spearheaded the government's fight against the Tamil Tiger insurgents (James Pringle writes).

The murder of Ranjan Wijeratne, the deputy minister of defence, on Saturday in a car-bomb blast was a coup for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and a severe reverse for the government of President Premadasa.

Mr Wijeratne, aged 60, an MP for the ruling United National Party, wielded much more power than his junior defence portfolio, even with his task of overseeing the drive against the rebels, suggested. Mr Wijeratne was in fact the president's second-in-command and hatchet man. A former tea planter, he was also the plantations and industry minister.

Tall, patrician, arrogant and blunt, he had an aura about him of ill-concealed menace. Of the Tigers, he liked to say: "We will wipe them off the face of the Earth." He was greatly disliked by Velupillai Prabhakaran, the Tamil Tiger leader, whose own exploits include the murder of the mayor of Jaffna in 1976.

Obituary, page 12

Beach crash

Brisbane — A helicopter exploded in mid-air and crashed on a beach off eastern Australia, killing seven people, including six members of one family, police said. It is believed to be Australia's worst helicopter crash. (AP)

Satellite launch

The fifth geostationary European meteorological satellite, Meteosat-5, and the second Astra television satellite, Astra 1B, were put into orbit by the European rocket Ariane IV after two earlier attempts had been called off because of problems with the rocket.

Fans mourn

Paris — Hundreds of admirers, led by Jane Birkin and Catherine Deneuve, converged on the home of French singer-songwriter Serge Gainsbourg to mourn his death. Police said first inquiries indicated he had died of a heart attack at his home on the Left Bank. He was 62. Obituary, page 12

Store explosion

Bangkok — Fire broke out at a leading department store in Bangkok, injuring three people, police said. The blaze began after explosions in the store's chemical storage room. Firemen also extinguished an inferno that began in a chemical warehouse in the Klong Toey port area and killed five people and left 7,000 slum dwellers homeless. (AFP)

Papers 'hidden'

Berlin — Erich Honecker, the former East German leader charged with the manslaughter of people trying to escape to the West, has been accused of hiding incriminating documents before national unification last year. (Reuters)

Minister ousted

Peking — Qian Yongchang, the Chinese communications minister, aged 58, was removed from office by the standing committee of the National People's Congress for abusing his position for personal gain. The *People's Daily* reported, Lin Hanzhong, the construction minister, aged 62, was also ousted, for violating discipline. (Reuters)

Yugoslavia gives Croatia a day to settle race tension

By DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

CROATIA was given 24 hours by the Yugoslav federal presidency yesterday to defuse tension between Serbs and Croats at Pakrac, east of Zagreb, after weekend clashes in which three people were reportedly injured.

Tanks and armoured vehicles of the Yugoslav army were deployed last night in the town, where the population of 10,000 is almost equally divided between Serbs and Croats, after Milan Brezak, the Croatian deputy interior minister, denied there had been any deaths.

Belgrade radio reported on Saturday that six Serbs had been killed. The Belgrade daily, *Vecernje Novosti*, reported 11 dead. Police were said to be making identity checks and searching cars, and had cordoned off access to the

town hall and police headquarters yesterday.

The weekend violence has become another issue in a media war between Belgrade and Zagreb. The Serbian press exaggerated the extent of the clashes with claims of many deaths among Serbs, in a move intended to inflame popular anger and create the impression that in Croatia, Serbs were being threatened with mass killings reminiscent of the second world war.

On Saturday, special police stormed Pakrac after Serbs defied an order to hand in weapons. There was an hour-long gunbattle as police fought with the crowd of several hundred before the army was called in to separate the two sides. Serbian reservists had taken over the local police force in Pakrac on February

22, echoing pro-independence moves by ethnic Serbs in Krajina, southern Croatia. In neighbouring villages, Serbs set up barricades as rumours spread that incoming police were ready to kill. Many fled, some with weapons, to surrounding hills.

The latest incident is the most serious since last summer when Serbs in Krajina defied the Croatian authorities and took up arms. The fighting has strained further the already tense relations between the Serbian and Croatian leadership.

The Zagreb leaders have appealed for calm, but relations between the two ethnic communities in Croatia, where 600,000 Serbs represent 11 per cent of the population, have now reached their lowest point. A minor incident could easily spark more bloodshed.

Serbs in Croatia have powerful backing from Serbia, which is communist-ruled, and from the Yugoslav army, which is predominantly Serbian, and has not concealed its hostility to the legitimately elected Croatian government of Franjo Tudjman.

The weekend clashes came just a month after the Croatian leadership and the Yugoslav army came close to armed confrontation. Dr Tudjman has accused the Yugoslav army of helping to provoke a Serbian rebellion in Croatia.

He claims that the Croatian authorities have proof that senior army officers took part in the unrest at Pakrac, which culminated when Serbs disarmed Croatian policemen and kept them hostage until the army was called in.

"The presidency should keep in mind that we have in our hands evidence which we shall make available to the public," Dr Tudjman said. The Croatian authorities have accused President Jovic — who is a Serb and often acts on his own — of allowing the situation to deteriorate before deploying the troops. But they are also at pains to emphasise that the deployment of troops ordered by the presidency had a local and temporary character and it did not mean that the army was acting against the Croatian state this time.

Serbia's ruling Socialist party, the renamed communists, yesterday organised a rally of about 5,000 people at the confluence of the Danube and Sava rivers in Belgrade. In central Belgrade, Serbia's main opposition leader, Vuk Draskovic, gave a more conciliatory speech to a crowd of about 1,500.

Latvian leader predicts victory in referendum

From ANATOL LIEVIN IN RIGA

IN A fresh challenge to President Gorbachev and his attempts to preserve the Soviet Union, Latvia and Estonia yesterday held referendums on independence. Their governments and national movements hope that the ballots

will strengthen their cause, and above all pre-empt the March 17 Soviet referendum on continuation of the union in its present form.

By midday yesterday, according to official figures, voter turnout was 50.74 per cent overall — high in Latvian-dominated rural areas, but lower in the cities, which have ethnic Russian majorities. The figure for Riga, the Latvian capital which is almost two-thirds ethnic Russian, was 39.73 per cent. After casting his vote in a sweet factory in Riga, Anatolijs Gorbunovs, the Latvian president, said: "I think that 70 per cent of those voting will choose independence."

If the Latvians and Estonians can gain the support of enough ethnic Russians to produce a two-thirds majority of their entire electorate for independence, they will have strengthened their cause greatly. Moscow's secession law demands this figure.

● Moscow — A home-made bomb exploded yesterday at a Communist party headquarters in Vilnius. There were no injuries. (AP)

Ossetian separatists reject Georgian talks

From BRUCE CLARK IN TSCHINVALI

LEADERS of this embattled town, whose squalid conditions after three months of economic and physical warfare is a testimony to the limits of Soviet power, have rejected as meaningless a proposal from Georgia's nationalist leader for negotiations.

Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who is fleeing threats from Moscow to broaden his peacekeeping role, has asked the Ossetian minority to find acceptable representatives for talks on the fighting between its volunteers and Georgian forces.

But a trip to Tskhinvali, where Ossetian leaders last September proclaimed a new Soviet republic, makes it plain there is still a gulf between the two sides, leaving little prospect for reconciliation. "Do not be deceived by the calm of the last few days," said Larisa Osatyaeva, a schoolteacher and spokeswoman for the south Ossetian assembly, whose attempt to opt out of Georgia's drive for independence from the Soviet Union is seen by Georgians as treachery. "The Georgians will soon carry out some new provocation. Gamsakhurdia needs to

keep the Ossetian issue alive in order to protect his domestic position," she said, echoing a charge which is sometimes made by rivals of the president within the Georgian national movement. She said there could be no question of talks while Tora Kumbukidze, the Ossetian leader, remains in prison and while Tskhinvali is under economic blockade.

Files of rubbish and crashed vehicles are strewn about the streets of what was a bustling town of 45,000 in the Caucasian foothills. Its residents have faced a three-week black-out, shortages of food, water and fuel and a virtual absence of communications. Residents who bring food, and presumably arms, from north Ossetia, on the other side of the Caucasus, have to walk through Georgian-controlled villages. One of the preconditions of talks is that Ossetian guerrillas give up their weapons. But there seems to be no chance of that; virtually all men of both communities are involved in the conflict.



Creature comfort: Louis Mermaz, the French agriculture minister, petting a calf at an agricultural fair in Paris yesterday. He meets European Community ministerial colleagues in Brussels today for the first of what are likely to be several tough rounds of haggling over farm prices (George Brock writes).

Tirana accuses Serbia

From RICHARD BASSETT IN TIRANA

A SENIOR member of the Albanian communist party's politburo accused Serbia at the weekend of stirring up turmoil in his country. In the first interview in Albania's postwar history to be granted by the ruling elite to a Western journalist, Xenji Gjoni served warning that further unrest would not be tolerated.

"We do not wish stronger measures. The population does not wish it but if terrorist forces take the people, the people will rise up," he said.

Mr Gjoni denounced the toppling of Enver Hoxha's statue last month as an act of "fascist vandalism". Such destructive forces within Albania have been fuelled by "foreign elements", he

claimed. Chief of these was Belgrade, which wanted as much turbulence as possible in Albania to distract attention from Serbia's human rights abuses against the Albanian population in Kosovo, Mr Gjoni insisted.

Mr Gjoni, who is related to the late Hysni Kapo, a close friend of Hoxha. He is secretary of the communist party's central committee and a former party boss of Tirana. He was highly critical of the Albanian opposition.

"The Democrat Party is a new party," he said. "Its experience is thin and they take advice from those abroad who do not understand either our nature or our character." Mr Gjoni went on: "It is my

view that the best interests of Albania are served by the communist party. That is also the case regarding Albania's future. Total privatisation as advocated by the opposition would be a disaster."

● VIENNA: Albania has stopped all food exports, declared a freeze on investments and announced staff cuts in its top-heavy administration in an effort to aid its ailing economy, *Ata* news agency said yesterday. (Reuters)

● OTTAWA: A boatload of 35 armed soldiers fleeing Albania arrived in this Italian port yesterday, hours behind another ship carrying 535 refugees. (Reuters)

Letters, page 11

MIAMI NOTEBOOK by SUSAN ELLICOTT

Amid the violence, happiness is a freeze-dried pet

Manuel Noriega is languishing in a jail noted for its tennis courts while his trial is in turmoil after the sudden death in a car crash of a key witness. Ramon Navarro, a paid government informant aged 44, was to have testified this week in the trial of two of the co-defendants in the drug-smuggling trial of the former Panamanian leader.

Last week, Navarro's car swerved off a deserted road, plunging into a fence and an electrical transformer. Police said he died instantly of multiple injuries. There were no known witnesses. Investigators are reviewing the accident but said they suspected no foul play. The death would certainly set back the US case against the ousted strongman, since Navarro had testified under oath that he plotted two years ago with the general and other narcotics traffickers to smuggle more than 600lb of cocaine into the United States from Colombia on board a yacht. The incident has



Noriega: chief witness for his trial has "turned up as a cadaver"

drawn little more than wry smiles from Miami residents who have always rated as slim the chances of "Pineapple Face" coming to trial. Navarro's lawyer said: "It's kind of a coincidence that this guy's getting ready to testify and he turns up as a cadaver." The chief prosecutor said he intended to proceed with the trial.

Indeed, little appears to faze Miami's Manuel Kane, who works at Pet Heaven Memorial Park in Miami, reports an increasing interest in the freeze-drying of deceased pets for owners who cannot bear to let go. She describes freeze-drying as a more lifelike version of taxidermy, involving the removal of a pet's organs and the substitution of its eyes with glass, that is "not necessarily creepy". The "freezing" takes up to six months. Prices range from \$150 (£80) for a bird to \$400 for a cat. Ms Kane recommends keeping Rover, Kitty or Polly in an air-conditioned room and an occasional light brushing.

But they are lured by the "Miami Vice" label that has stuck to their hometown since the 1970s. They insist the crime rate is lower than in many large US cities, while the "quality of life" is unbeatable in their so-called sunshine state. Recently, however, they have begun to wish they had not sung the praises of Florida with such suc-

cess since growing numbers of vagrants are reminding transplanted northerners of the urban ills they left behind.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in the archipelago west of Miami, where tourists flock during the balmy winter months to snorkel among brilliantly coloured fish, sunbathe and unwind before spring. These days, visitors are complaining about the year-round population of beggars, drunks and drug addicts who, like them, are happy to "hang out" on the sandy beaches off Key West. Hoteliers and restaurant owners claim the "homeless" are beginning to scare holidaymakers away, but they cannot agree on how to deal with the problem.

Amid a range of corruption trials of policemen and a suspended mayor, the most talked-about scandal in town these days is an exposé in the *Miami Herald* of a homosexual bathhouse masquerading as a health club but

of the type closed by health authorities and gay activists in the mid-1980s at the height of a national scare about the spread of Aids.

Although the city has the fifth largest number of Aids patients in the United States, the club has been renting out so-called "dressing rooms" barely the size of cupboards for eight-hour periods with a bed, clean sheets and a pillow. Reporters found sexual aids and leather gear stowed in a "pleasure chest" but no work-out equipment.

The club's "education director" showed videos of men engaged in unsafe sexual acts but offered little — or incorrect — advice about the use of condoms. He offered himself as a sexual partner to the club's members while knowing he was infected with the HIV virus.

State and local authorities told the newspaper that they knew nothing of the goings-on and recently gave the club permission to expand.

Ronald Butt

Victims of good intentions

In nearly a third of our schools, standards are "worryingly poor". This is no wild allegation by some prejudiced critic of state education but the testimony of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector for Schools in his latest annual report. In appropriate bureaucratic manner, however, this appalling finding is defensively balanced by the report's insistence that "much more" of the service is "satisfactory or good than is poor or very poor". The slight improvement since last year is acclaimed and critics of state education are castigated for "indiscriminate scatter-shot attacks on standards, on the quality of all teachers and on the state education service at large".

I have never heard any critic allege that all teaching, teachers or standards were bad. Even the most stringent of them would hardly say more than that one in three of all children were poorly taught and that, of the rest, (as the chief inspector's report states) a high proportion merely received "satisfactory" teaching, which hardly testifies to high teaching standards — if the terminology of school reports on pupils is anything to go by.

In primary schools, for instance, 30 per cent of the work was found to be "poor", about 36 per cent "satisfactory" and only 33 per cent "good to very good". There may

At the heart of the matter is the poor start of so many children in the primary schools. For some there is no recovery later

improvements and more may be on the way, but the pace is slower than the nation can afford. Of course, all this is nothing new. Successive education secretaries, university teachers who judge from the level of education of their students, and countless worried parents could testify to its reality. The numbers of people who struggle to pay for independent education for their children and the many more who turn to private coaching to try to make good the inadequacies of the teaching provided by the state are proof that something is fundamentally wrong.

At the heart of the matter is the poor start of so many children in the primary schools, where often they are neither taught adequately the essential rudiments of mathematics nor encouraged to write or read stories and poetry. For some children there is no recovery later.

They are the victims of a well-meant doctrine which emphasises equality of outcome (rather than of opportunity) and requires the height of hurdles to be lowered so that fewer children fail. Hence the educational establishment's suspicion of examinations and the changes made in them so that more will pass. Hence the dislike of attainment-testing, which is not a trial the pupils should fear but rather a way of finding out how well or ill they are being taught.

Hence, too, the inadequate use of formal classwork and the over-emphasis on projects. Pasting pictures and copying into books the texts of teaching time, and learning by rote is despised. Classroom assessment is preferred to examinations, despite the risk that some children may suffer more from teachers' preconceptions than

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

Never mind the smog warning, before the next war, could they issue a smog warning? I wonder whether we are altogether the most sanctimonious nation on earth, or only finalists for some sort of world cup in the pious league? I wonder there is anything at all — any small endeavour, however trivial — over which we do not feel bound to moralise? I wonder whether it is possible for an Englishman to clean his teeth without constructing it into an act of virtue; or to take his family for a picnic without seeking out the moral high ground to picnic upon?

I wonder whether this is some kind of intoxication? Do we, perhaps, become smug-drunk? And can one suffer from a smug-hangover? Will we, months on from this wretched war, wake up with pounding heads and blink: "Oh cripe! Was I very smug, or just slightly? Did I make an idiot of myself — or were the others all smug too?"

And a comforting voice will say: "Don't worry, dear. You were just a bit on your moral high horse, but we all were. It does no harm, once in a while..." And we will try to piece together the events of the weeks past — the newspaper editorials, the saloon-bar sermons, parliamentary questions and letters to the editor — and remember what we said, and to whom, in case there are apologies to be made.

"This is rum!" I hear friends mutter. "He seems to oppose this war — an ex-Tory MP?" Not so. Not for so much as an

instant did even a flicker of doubt as to its point or its prospects cross my mind. It seemed to me entirely expedient. The opposition to taking action struck me as — frankly — crackers. Some Middle Eastern snare was slaughtering our friends and threatening our interests. Plainly he had to be stopped. So I can steel myself against the guns, the bombs, the killing, the blood; it's the moralising I can't stand.

Take all this guff about the United Nations. It is perfectly clear that nobody is interested in the UN except when the organisation can be bounced into backing up our own opinions. By a rather remarkable coincidence that occurred this time. This happy circumstance, which will almost certainly never be repeated, arose because the Soviet Union was too punch-drunk to conduct its habitual spilling operation. Once you've got a security council resolution in place it is hard to dislodge. The war therefore proceeded under the UN's national auspices, although it was really an American enterprise with backing from America's friends, and Arabs who are more afraid of Saddam than of President Bush.

The United Nations consensus stands no chance of surviving "the peace", and so you already see Western governments cooling their UN rhetoric, fast. Quite right, too. This bizarre organisation should no more stop us following our own judgments than it stopped Tony Benn when he disagreed with it.

Carrots and sticks will tame Baghdad

Reparations can ensure good behaviour, says Harold James

Should Iraq pay reparations to Kuwait? The claim seems ludicrous in the light of the appalling, and militarily unnecessary, wrecking of the emirate from the looting and murder that accompanied the initial invasion in August to the last wave of burning oil wells. There is nothing wrong with the principle of reparation, but there are frequent objections on the basis of past practice.

Reparations imposed on Germany after the first world war were still widely believed to have been responsible for the legacy of German bitterness which led to the Third Reich, and to have contributed significantly to the world economic depression.

The Versailles Treaty imposed on Germany an unspecified claim for reparations, which was finally fixed two years later at 132 billion Gold Marks, an apparently unrealistic sum, more than three times the pre-war German GNP. In the event, Germany only ever paid a small part of this (about 22 billion Gold Marks). The pay-

ments were revised downwards in 1924, and again in 1929. Three years later an international conference at Lausanne, believing that reparations had played a leading part in causing the world depression, cancelled the payments.

By the time of the Lausanne conference, most people outside France and Belgium considered reparations an unmitigated evil. The change in attitude was a testimony to the vigour of John Maynard Keynes's polemic of 1919, the *Economic Consequences of the Peace*. Keynes had come away from Versailles convinced of the folly of reparations. Economically, he believed, they disrupted the trade patterns of the pre-war years; and politically, they poisoned the minds of Germans against the West. This interpretation subsequently became the commonplace of history textbooks, as well as a guide to political action. Had not repara-

tions indicated to the German people that the Western powers were untrustworthy and vindictive? And had not Hitler's National Socialists scored their first political breakthrough in the 1929 plebiscite against them?

Keynes's argument was seductive but wrong, and its success at Lausanne proved disastrous. Reparations provided an excellent way of binding Germany into the international order and limiting the scope for revanchism.

The improvement of the terms granted in 1924 and 1929 was possible only because Germany demonstrated that it could be trusted. In each case, revision held out benefits to Germans: not just in reduced payments but also because in demonstrating German status as a reliable member of the international order, they created access to foreign markets and sources of capital.

In terms of domestic opinion,

reparations provided a safety valve for discontent. The impoverishment that followed the war, and the grim realities of life in the depressed 1920s, made Germans look for a scapegoat. Rather than blaming their previous or present government they pinned responsibility for their deprivation on the allies, and on the need to make payments. This relocation of responsibility helped governments to survive in conditions of severe hardship.

In 1932, when reparations were removed, and the economic situation failed to improve, Germans no longer had this easy explanation. They started to blame their own governments for policy failures, and they demanded a radical change. It was no coincidence that the end of reparations (July 1932) was only six months before the complete breakdown of Weimar

democracy and the appointment of Adolf Hitler as chancellor. The lesson of interwar Germany is that the threat to peace, stability and democracy lies in removing reparations, and not in imposing them. After Lausanne, moderation ceased to be attractive or rewarding; and the stage was set for a second world war.

A high but realistic reparations bill that can be negotiated down can still provide today an incentive for international cooperation. It is a carrot and not simply a stick. We should now establish a Versailles rather than a Lausanne. For Iraq there would be the hope that reparations might be reduced with a change of regime. And for a peaceful and responsible regime, there is the possibility that the restoration of aggression, militarism and revanchism would bring instant financial penalties. Reparations — handled properly — can be the most valuable instrument of political re-education.

The author is professor of history at Princeton University.

Time for a Siberian thaw

I suppose you could call this one of the smaller but still significant meetings of history. After all, Mr Gorbachev's door is not open to just anyone who cares to call. Yet, as I recorded a few months ago, Joyce Simpson, one of those extraordinary Jewish ladies who spend their days and nights giving comfort and — more important — practical help to the Soviet "refuseniks" (if you thought that there were no refuseniks left there, you were, alas, most grievously mistaken) brought off a coup which required more *chutzpah* than even I thought the ladies had.

She walked up to Mr Gorbachev and handed him a file giving the details of the hideous perversion of justice that had condemned an innocent man, Adolf Gorvitz, to ten years in the Gulag. (If you thought that the Gulag no longer existed, you were even more mistaken.) Nor was her action taken on the spur of the moment while a bewildered Mr Gorbachev wondered what it was all about. She had already beard him and asked him to take appropriate action on behalf of those innocent still suffering in Soviet camps and prisons; he asked her to give him details; the Gorvitz file was her response, and he took it from her willingly. Well, it took a few months; but the Jewish ladies have learnt to be patient. The terrible years are over for the moment at least: Mr Gorvitz has been released. Alas, when one door shuts, another shuts. Adolf Gorvitz is out, but Yuri Massover, Samuil Rombe, Dmitri Berman and the brothers Felix and Roman Bodner are still in the Gulag, and so are a lot more besides.

Since we can start anywhere, we might as well start with Samuil Rombe. He has been trying to get out of the Soviet Union since 1975; the system then (as now) was that the first application to emigrate led at once to dismissal from whatever work the applicant was doing. After his automatic dismissal, he got work as a truck driver and night watchman.

Six years after his first application, he was told that his exit visa would be provided within a few days. Within three few days he was arrested. The charges changed from day to day, as is common, and he was eventually "tried" and sentenced to three years' imprisonment. The sentence was suspended, but he was not allowed



As John Major visits Moscow, Bernard Levin challenges Gorbachev to set the remaining refuseniks free

to go home, and was assigned to rock-breaking and road-building. That was in the early Eighties; only a couple of months ago did he get full permission to leave the country. On the eve of his and his family's departure, the same trick was played; he was arrested on the usual variety of charges, and is now awaiting trial.

Tick off Mr Rombe, call in Dmitri Berman, who is one of the few refuseniks to have been charged with murder. After eight months of daily beatings and torture by drugs, he attempted suicide. He was finally told that if he did not confess to the crime he would be either executed or incarcerated in one of the Soviet Union's terrible "madhouse-for-the-sane" (yes, they are still with us, as real as the Gulag), where he would be made truly insane. He confessed. So would we.

Protesters spoke up inside and outside the Soviet Union (the ones inside exhibiting extraordinary courage); more to the point, the trumped-up charge was shown to be riddled with perjury, subornation and impossibilities. Eventually, Mr Berman's case was thrown out, the evidence agreed to be a total fabrication.

In January, Mr Berman went home, free. In June, the two chief investigators (justice will be done upon them one day, so we may as well name them — they are Vladimir Litvinchenko and Mikhail Potemkin) threatened to re-open the case. They had invented a new kind of trial, one in which there would be no exhibits, no observers and no prior announcement of the "trial" date.

In August, 1990, the procurator made in writing a statement that the case against Mr Berman had

been withdrawn, and that there was no evidence of his participation in the crime. He applied to emigrate with his family; they were given permission, but he was refused, because "there might be new charges". He took refuge in the Canadian embassy in Moscow; when last heard from (January 5, 1991) he was still there.

Felix Bodner, step forward, and bring your brother Roman. The brothers Bodner were charged with embezzling 5,500,000 rubles; the fact that they were Jews was in itself officially declared to be an aggravating circumstance. Though their name was, and has always been, Bodner, they were charged under the name of "Bender", because then, was a convicted criminal of that name. They were held in prison, first in Tashkent, then in Moscow, then in Tashkent again, for a year in all

— of course without trial. A severe stroke left their mother partly paralysed; because of this, and the anti-Semitic harassment they suffer, the family desperately wanted to leave, but cannot until the fraudulent case of the brothers is over.

They were told last August that the trial would take a year and would start in October. It started; the brothers were confined, in the courtroom, to a metal cage. The defence lawyer had been frightened away (no discredit to him, Soviet justice being what it is); the prosecution lawyer appeared on television to denounce him. After an hour and a half the trial was postponed indefinitely. In November, the brothers' father died.

He family heard that the two lay assessors who take part in such cases had resigned, apparently unwilling to take part in such a travesty. The family was told that the trial would resume on December 13; next day they were told that it had been postponed indefinitely. After more false starts, it has at last started.

Finally, until the next time, there is Yuri Massover. He is a psychiatrist, and was the head of a Moscow hospital. Baseless charges were brought against him in 1986; it was claimed that he had taken bribes six years previously. There was only one witness, who had himself been convicted for taking bribes, and he publicly withdrew his testimony against Mr Massover, revealing (not that anyone would have needed the revelation) that it had been given under duress. Nevertheless, Mr Massover was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment in one of the most dreadful of the remaining Siberian concentration camps. He has been robbed, beaten and tortured; he is in poor health, and unlikely to survive the remaining five years of his sentence.

I am going to buy a parrot and teach it to say "Cui bono?", so sick am I of saying it for myself. Why should Mr Gorbachev need to be badgered for the release, one by one, of men and women who are manifestly innocent of the crimes for which they have been imprisoned, when his continued refusal to release the remaining refuseniks go can give him nothing he wants, nothing he needs, nothing he values, nothing that strengthens him, nothing that weakens his enemies?

Oh, very well. Polly wants a biscuit. Cui bono?

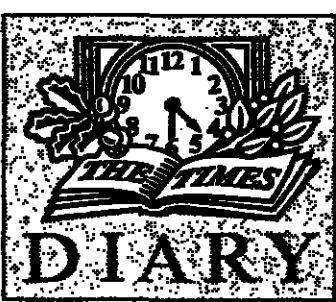
Who will rule the air waves?

Eight months before the end of Marmaduke Hussey's term as chairman of the BBC Board of Governors, the corridors of power are alive with whispers about who will succeed him.

Dr David Owen, the former SDP leader who has become something of a cheerleader for John Major, is one name being widely touted as a replacement. "His tough, no-nonsense style would be valuable during the expected turbulence of broadcasting deregulation in the early Nineties," says a member of the Privy Council, which makes the appointment on the advice of the prime minister. Senior cabinet ministers such as Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, who has responsibility for broadcasting, will also play an important role in making the decision.

Other names in the frame include Lord Barnett of Heywood and Royton, at present vice-chairman of the board. But the former Labour minister's age (he will be 68 when the post becomes available in November) could count against him. Lord St John of Fawley, chairman of the Royal Fine Arts Commission, also has his supporters. A former arts minister, he has a deep interest in broadcasting, citing one of his recreations in *Who's Who* as "appearing on television". He is understood to have strong support from Chris Patten, the Tory party chairman.

The outsider is Jeremy Isaacs, the chief of the Royal Opera House. As a former chief executive of Channel 4 he has the necessary experience, and despite his insistence that he intends to remain at Covent Garden, friends believe he would accept the job if it were offered.



Hussey himself, however, has other ideas. Although the convention is that the chairman retires after a single five-year term, the former Grenadier Guards officer is thought to be planning a rearguard action that could secure a renewal of his contract for another five years.

Simply divine

Not since the design of the Princess of Wales's wedding dress has the fashion world been so excited. Juliet Hemingway, a Derby embroiderer, has unveiled her designs for the outfit to be worn by the Rev Dr George Carey for his enthronement as the Archbishop of Canterbury next month. Its elaborateness, and that of a second set of robes revealed in *The Times* today, seems to fly in the face of the archbishop's clergy's suggestion, reported in the *Diary* last month, that he favoured simple vestments. The garments are at least as ornate as those worn by Robert Runcie for his debut; Hemingway was given a brief to produce something eye-catching for a television audience. The cope is yellow moire, while the mite and stole are fashioned from cream-coloured moire, appliqued with purple, red, orange, yellow and gold flames and decorated with rhinestones and metallic cord. The hood is decorated with the Compass Rose, a symbol for the

Anglican Communion which lies in the nave of Canterbury Cathedral, and the words "The truth will make you free" from St John's Gospel.

"I was asked to come up with a design which has a symbolic message and which will draw the attention of people watching the ceremony at home," says Hemingway. Traditionalists, however, can draw comfort from one accessory which will be incorporated into the new design. Carey's cope will be fastened with the clasp first used by Archbishop Howley in the early 19th century.

Armed survivor

A visit to the garden of the former private residence of the Ceausescus in Bucharest, arranged by bribing the soldiers guarding the gates, is the latest tourist attraction in Romania. The garden itself is nondescript, but through a scrubby thicket the *palace de rezidenta* is revealed. Under a glass and stone canopy stands an exquisite copy of the Venus de Milo — but with a difference.

A Romanian guide, who took

including the Venus de Milo. When it arrived she was horrified. "This is rubbish!" she shouted. "Where are its arms?" They were added by an obedient Romanian sculptor, and strategically placed to preserve the statue's modesty. "The government does not know what to do with the house," says the guide. "But whatever is decided, this statue should be preserved as the only monument the Ceausescus deserve."

Out of the action

The swift end of the Gulf war appears to have caught even Downing Street on the hop. Stephen Wall, a former aide to Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, who was due to take over from Sir Charles Powell as John Major's private secretary and unofficial foreign policy adviser as soon as the war ended, is still abroad on holiday. Powell is now likely to stay on until Easter.

When the war started, Major agreed that in the interests of continuity the staff changeover should not take place until after hostilities had ceased, and told Wall he need not prepare himself to report for duty until the middle of this month at the earliest. A Downing Street source said Wall was travelling around Europe on a long overdue holiday, and is not due back in Britain for another fortnight.

More high-rise in the Docklands seems certain following the London Docklands Development Corporation's endorsement of plans by the John R. Harris partnership for Shad 35, the site next to Canary Wharf. But not everyone is happy. Olympia and York have protested to the LDDC about the "high density" of the proposed scheme. And who are Olympia and York? The people responsible for that well known high-density development Canary Wharf.



part in the revolution, explains: "Madame Ceausescu was an ignorant peasant who thought she was an art expert. She ordered copies of various works of art,



LIFE AFTER POLL TAX: 5

The easy part of John Major's incumbency of Downing Street is now over. This week he prolongs his honeymoon with a trip to Moscow, but last Saturday's Tory local government conference gave him a foretaste of the tough tasks ahead, tougher by far than any he will face in the Kremlin. Before the month is out, he will have to tackle his first great leadership test, pushing through the Conservative party the abolition of his predecessor's poll tax.

Or will he? March is always a tense time for Tory politicians. They are keyed up for spring elections, the grassroots activists testing their muscles at conferences and campaign meetings. The budget is in prospect. Every four years, there is a June election to guess at. Rarely do such moments see great radicalism, or even great courage. March is a mad month in politics, the month for the short-term view.

Hence the strident revisionism now being heard from Tory briefers on the fate of the poll tax. A handful of speakers at Saturday's conference called on ministers to stop bad-mouthing the community charge and to defend it. With splendidly low charges from Wandsworth and Westminster already announced, surely the task was to speak well of this noble creation of 1980s Toryism. Further into the backwoods it is even being muttered that defending the poll tax will be the true test of Mr Major's loyalty to his predecessor's memory, the Thatcherite covenant. Go back to property taxes and the wets will have triumphed after all.

No senior minister, official or local politician (apart from a tiny few showed with knighthoods and transitional grants) seriously believes the poll tax should stay in being. A handful want to keep it alongside a property tax: involving local government in the monstrosity of two registers to maintain. While no clear option has yet emerged to replace the tax, the chief reason is not the absence of an option but fear of the party

reaction to restoring the rates. This reason needs emphasis: the cabinet's fear is not of the electoral reaction but that of party activists and a handful of backbenchers.

The rates, widened in scope, deepened in incidence and coated in some new fiscal cosmetic, are the only sensible way of paying for local services if real accountability is ever to return to local government. Poll tax has reduced the proportion of local revenue subject to local decision from almost 60 per cent to under 20 per cent in ten years of Conservative rule. Tory activists may wish that decline to continue, but they are no friends of local government.

The path of necessity is clear. Mr Major must summon his environment secretary, Michael Heseltine, and agree with him that the poll tax must go and be replaced by a rental-related property tax embracing both domestic and business premises. Historical distortions in valuations must be adjusted through the central grant system.

Mr Major must secure cabinet agreement for this view and then insist that the party in parliament and the country go along with the decision. Margaret Thatcher whipped the poll tax through a bitterly resistant party. John Major must, if needs be, whip through its replacement. He knows the party and government made a mistake and must now correct it. He has to clear this wretched business out of the way — and fast, painful though the clearing may be.

Mr Major could vacillate, worry himself sick about "the view of the party", backtrack and postpone. He could allow himself to be led by short-term expediency and wander Whitehall blindly clutching at any straw. But he should be careful. Funk this one and the comparison with his predecessor will be on every political lip: where's the beef? The Conservative party responds to nothing as readily as to the smack of firm leadership. In the matter of poll tax, the leadership must know what it wants and how to get it.

THE STEELY GENTLEMAN

And what should John Major do in Moscow this week? Making policy on the hoof during meetings with Mikhail Gorbachev is not a good idea, as Ronald Reagan discovered at Reykjavik in 1986. Nor is hasty improvisation part of Mr Major's diplomatic repertoire. But the Baltic referendums on independence, in defiance of Moscow, are reminders that events in the Soviet Union have not stood still during the Gulf war. Mr Major should devote this visit to making up his own mind, both about the extent of the Leninist reaction in the Kremlin, and about how the West should respond.

Mr Major's gift for striking up working relationships with foreign statesmen is likely to work on President Gorbachev. But good relations need not and must not paralyse policy. There has always been a case for loyalty to the devil you know. But Mr Gorbachev is no longer the devil-turned-saint the West thought it knew. He is becoming an unknown quantity once again. Mr Major will have the advantage over other western leaders of coming fresh to the task of reading this man's intentions.

Much of this week's talks will be over the aftermath of the Gulf war. Soviet policy has, on balance, helped the American-led coalition's efforts to deal with Saddam Hussein, notably at the United Nations. Still, Iraq was defeated without a drop of Russian blood being shed. Soviet support in the UN will continue to be needed, but Moscow has not earned the right to act as co-arbitrator of the region with the allied coalition. Mr Gorbachev need expect no new payoff from the West for abandoning his former ally in Iraq. Obedience to international law should be its own reward.

Soviet backtracking on the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) agreement is more sensitive and, in the long run, more important. Arms control has been the most conspicuous success story of the Gorbachev era. But the evidence for Soviet backtracking

is now too strong to ignore. Behind the treaty infringements, such as the restoration of equipment covered by CFE behind the Urals, lies the power of an unholy alliance of generals, defence contractors and the KGB in fierce contention with the foreign affairs professionals — a conflict whose outcome was ominously signalled by the resignation in despair of Eduard Shevardnadze.

Mr Gorbachev's interest in this meeting derives almost wholly from the possibility of economic assistance from the European Community. Britain's influence over its partners' foreign policy, and on Washington, has hitherto enjoyed a healthy respect in Moscow. Mr Major should make the most of this. He needs to tell the Soviet president that assistance is possible, but only if the Kremlin does not ignore the manifest democratic wishes of the Soviet peoples, including awkward customers like Boris Yeltsin. Such democratic institutions as there are once had Mr Gorbachev's blessing. If he continues to undermine them, the West will have no reason to trust him.

At the Rome EC summit last year, Mrs Thatcher stopped her partners from affirming the present borders of the Soviet Union and so overturning the West's consistent refusal to grant de jure recognition of Stalin's annexation of the Baltic states. Mr Major's tough line after the shootings in Vilnius and Riga suggests that he shares his predecessor's view that the Baltic lands are a special case.

The prime minister has no chance of persuading Mr Gorbachev to drop his opposition to Baltic independence. But he has an opportunity to explore the depth of that opposition: is there anything that would persuade Mr Gorbachev to change his mind, as he did over German unity? He should tell the Soviet leader that Britain will not echo Bonn's prevarications on the Baltic states. Mr Major's good manners will charm his host: but he should not hesitate to show that he can be a steely gentleman too.

THANKS FOR THE VICTORY

Wars form their own characters. The Gulf war has been businesslike, mechanical, in outcome overwhelmingly one-sided, quite different from the Falklands war. That was celebrated by a victory parade through London. Yesterday the Bishop of Durham said that another parade would be "obscene" and that any thanksgiving service should dwell on repentance and gratitude, not triumphalism. Was he reflecting the mood of the country? Or merely the views of a leftwing Anglican ready to offer the media a sound bite at the drop of a telephone call?

The bishop's adjective was characteristically invidious. "Inappropriate" or "unnecessary" would have made the bishop's point just as well as "obscene", and rendered the ensuing argument less rancorous. But the bishop is the gadfly of the Church of England. He knows that exaggeration is the handmaid of publicity, provoking somnolent institutions into lively debate.

After the Falklands war, there was nothing to be lost by celebrating a national victory at arms. The Argentinians had invaded British soil and been sent off. Too bad if they took offence. Yet even then, there was unease not only in leftwing quarters over the triumphalism that seemed to have infected the government and much of the country. When Dr Robert Runcie delivered a low-key sermon at the service of thanksgiving, Mrs Thatcher was reportedly furious. Many felt he was right. Too much celebration seemed somehow undignified, even un-English.

Victory parades are a primitive ritual, designed to respond to the visceral urges of one tribe that has defeated another. They are

a way not of thanking but of glorifying warriors. They date from days when every able-bodied male had to take up arms and when triumphs, like loot, were part of the community's incentive package. There is nothing wrong with such primeval desires. But in a country as mature as Britain, there are other, more civilised ways, of expressing the civilian's gratitude to soldiers.

Those who fought in the Gulf and their relatives have gone through a terrible ordeal. Some — thankfully few — lost their lives in what was unquestionably a good cause. Their achievement and sacrifice must not go unrecognised. But a pipe-and-drum, ticker-tape parade would send the wrong signals to the Arab world. Britain would be seen as an arrogant Western country revelling in its humiliation of an Arab loser.

The Bishop of Durham is right in one sense. All war is a symbol of failure, the failure of politics, of diplomacy, of deterrence. But war does have the characteristic of rectifying failure. If it achieves that goal, the achievement merits recognition. The service of thanksgiving should express gratitude to the armed forces for having fought successfully in a justified war. It should be as ecumenical as possible, to avoid excluding members of non-Christian faiths. John Major should trust his political instinct, which so far has served him well. If the soldiers and the public want a procession, it should be a dignified event, a walk down Whitehall to the Cenotaph, in honour of the fallen and as a reminder to the nation that the avoidance of war is the ultimate task of politics.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Ways of winning the Gulf peace

From Mr David Kemp, QC

Sir, Saddam Hussein and his henchmen are regarded as being guilty of flagrant violations of international law. But it would be a grave political mistake to try them before an ad hoc international tribunal.

However fair the procedures adopted, however strong the evidence against the accused, the tribunal would be seen by many in the Arab world and in other Muslim countries as a mere instrument of the West. There is, anyway, something distasteful about a special tribunal set up by the victors to try the vanquished.

The worst crimes were committed in Kuwait. When the legitimate government of that country has been fully restored, let those accused of such crimes be handed over to that government to be tried in the courts of Kuwait for offences committed against the criminal laws of Kuwait.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID KEMP,
4 Raymond Buildings,
Gray's Inn, WC1.

From Mr J. P. Hart

Sir, In view of the pillage and destruction of Kuwait and its oil production, refining and export facilities, there must be no relaxation of the requirement that Iraq must pay reparations. A practical means of exacting compensation on the scale necessary is by means of imposing a levy on Iraqi oil exports.

In the past, the bulk of Iraqi exports have been transmitted via the pipeline terminals at the Saudi port on Yanbu on the Red Sea and the Turkish Mediterranean port of Ceyhan; thus effective control over both could be exercised. Assuming that producers, particularly Saudi Arabia, who made good the shortfall, were willing to reduce their production to pre-August 1990 levels and Iraqi exports via these terminals were restored to say 2 million barrels per day, a levy of \$5 per barrel would produce around \$3.5 billion per annum. On this basis, control would need to remain in place for very many years.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HART,
Ashfield, 39 Outlands Chase,
Weybridge, Surrey.
February 26.

Community forests

From Mr R. Christie Dawson

Sir, The recent correspondence (February 23, 25, 28) concerning both the attractions and economic benefits of community forests has failed to address the central problem. Such forests are not designed to produce a utilisable crop and thus provide a measurable return on the public money allocated to them. What is required is a considerable expansion of commercial forestry on marginal agricultural land in the wetter parts of the country.

Josslyn Gore-Booth (February 25) calls the British climate cold and dry, relative to the west of Ireland. The west side of the UK also benefits from a maritime climate,

which is considerably warmer and wetter than the continental climates that provide much of the world's coniferous timber. As a result trees in the UK grow on average two to three times faster than in the countries which supply over 80 per cent of our timber requirements, namely Canada, the USSR, and Scandinavia.

We have the land to grow commercial crops of trees at a profit, but also need the political willpower for such necessary development to proceed.

Yours faithfully,
R. CHRISTIE DAWSON,
Barrington Farm House,
Great Barrington,
Burford,
Oxford.

However the first aim of their leaders, despite a recent announcement by assorted expatriate groups, is not to seek a united effort with fellow Kurds in neighbouring countries, as Binyon suggests, but to establish a fully autonomous Kurdish state within a federal, democratic Iraq. This, I submit, they deserve; and they would be perfectly capable of self-government.

Moreover, the removal from the direct control of Baghdad of this very considerable area, embracing over 5 million people, would simplify the setting-up of a democratic regime in the remainder of the country.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KILBRACKEN,
House of Lords.
February 27.

Albania's plight

From Sir Reginald Hibbert

Sir, It is odd that your third leader on February 22 described current events in Albania as the final act of the Balkan tragedy which began at Yalta. The partisans led by Enver Hoxha were victorious in Albania and he set up a communist government there several months before the Yalta conference took place. This could have been prevented only by military intervention from outside (as in Greece), but strategic decisions taken at Allied summit meetings in 1943 left no forces available for such intervention. Neither British nor American nor Soviet armies entered Albania at the end of the war. Yalta changed nothing there.

Your leader said that the West must take its share of responsibility for leaving this little nation to Stalin's satraps. But Enver Hoxha was not a creation of Stalin's and had his communist upbringing not in Moscow but in France. After the war he used Stalin and Stalin's methods to get rid of rivals and colleagues and to frustrate Tito, but neither Stalin nor his successors ever managed to get a grip on Hoxha and the Albanian Communist Party.

Those who have written about their wartime experiences in Albania have been almost exclusively officers who were with the losing "nationalist" side, and they have

claimed that Albania went communist because Britain's SOE (Special Operations Executive) helped the partisans and not the "nationalists". Hence the idea that the West is responsible for Albania's plight. What happened in 1943 and 1944 was in fact much more complex than that.

The partisans, while fighting the "nationalists", also fought the Germans enough to get a few hundred tons of weapons and equipment from SOE. The "nationalists" were beguiled by the Greater Albania (including Kosovo) which the Germans had brought into being, and thought they could rely on the Germans to crush the partisans and on the Western Allies to send an expeditionary force to keep out the Slavs and communism when Germany was defeated. They were wrong on both counts.

The story of the partisan war and Enver Hoxha's rise to power has not been adequately told in the West (nor in Albania for that matter). If the Western powers are going to help Albania, they need a better understanding of the way in which Albania arrived at the singular condition which has separated it from the rest of Europe for nearly half a century.

Yours faithfully,
REGINALD HIBBERT,
Fronde, Pennal,
Machynlleth, Powys.
February 23.

Westminster heritage

From Dr John Rae

Sir, Mrs Christopher Patten and her co-signatories (February 28) omit to say what the building they object to is for. Their omission is understandable. Bequeathed residents versus archdiocese of Westminster makes a better story than influential residents versus the needs of school-children.

A principal reason for the proposed building is the urgent need for space for Westminster Cathedral Choir School. The school was built for 30; it now has to accommodate 90. The governors approved the expansion because a school for choristers only was neither economically nor educationally viable.

Without the additional pupils the choir school would have closed and the musical heritage of the cathedral would have been lost. The new building is the only way in which desperately needed space can be provided.

If the building goes ahead some of the residents of Morpeth Terrace will lose their view of the cathedral.

Their objection is understandable. But they must not pretend that there is nothing at stake but a "multi-purpose building".

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RAE (Vice-chairman of Governors), Westminster Cathedral Choir School, Ambrosedon Avenue, SW1.
March 1.

From Mr John Gibbs

Sir, Mrs Patten and others claim that the new pastoral and educational centre which the Archdiocese of Westminster plans to build within the curtilage of Westminster Cathedral will detract from the area's architectural value. Their opinion should be set against the uncompleted plans for the whole curtilage laid out at the end of the last century by John Francis Bentley, the cathedral architect. These plans clearly envisaged a sizeable

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

Hotels working under difficulty

From the Chief Executive of Trusthouse Forte

Sir, I am afraid I must take issue with almost every aspect of your leader entitled "Room at the inn" (February 27).

Your criticism of the British hotel industry seems to have been triggered by a government contribution of £1.6m to help overcome the temporary problems caused by the Gulf war. This contribution, although very welcome, brings the government support for promoting the United Kingdom to £13 million this year. Given that in 1990 tourism contributed £9.6 billion in overseas earnings, produced tax revenue of £2.5 billion, and provided jobs for one in ten of our workforce, I think that the British taxpayer is receiving very good value for money.

Your article also appears to argue that we are suffering now because we have neglected the British market. This is completely untrue. In recent years the leisure-break market has been developed beyond all recognition, offering extremely attractive packages both in London and the provinces.

Furthermore, the majority of new hotels built in recent years have been "budget accommodation", such as our own Travelodge chain, which offers high-quality accommodation for a family of four at £29.50 per night. As far as my own company is concerned, almost half of the guests in our London hotels are from the UK, as are 90 per cent in our provincial hotels.

The comments on price are also not borne out by the hard facts. A very recent BTA (British Tourist Authority) survey shows that London is considerably less expensive than comparable major cities around the world.

We operate in an exceptionally competitive market with most comparable governments spending significantly higher amounts to lure international travellers to their

countries. It would defy the basic principles of economics if we really were offering a product which was not good value for money but had still managed to attract 15 per cent more visitors to London over the past five years.

Yours sincerely,
ROCCO FORTE,
Chief Executive, Trusthouse Forte,
166 High Holborn, WC1.
February 28.

From Mr Richard Davis

Sir, Your leader over-simplifies the case by giving the impression that hoteliers have taken advantage of the shortage of hotel accommodation in the capital solely for reasons of greed.

Regrettably hoteliers have been obliged to charge high prices in order to provide the surplus on investment demanded by the City, which has always taken a particularly short-term view in financing this industry.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD DAVIS,
22 Belsize Road, NW6.
February 28.

From the Chairman of the British Incoming Tour Operators' Association

Sir, A small financial gesture has been made by government to the tourism industry, an industry whose knock-on effect on every part of the country and the economy is enormous.

As one of my members remarked last week, if farmers can be compensated for every mad cow they had to destroy, why can we not be compensated for every (mad?) visitor who chooses to stay away?

Yours faithfully,
SARAH DALE, Chairman,
The British Incoming Tour Operators' Association,
18a Coulson Street, SW3.
February 27.

Ulster governance

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative)

Sir, Your leading article, "A visit to Ulster" (February 23), rightly describes the present regime in the Province as "colonial" and unacceptable. You go on, however, to propose forcing the Northern Irish to take on more responsibility for governing their own society on a fixed timetable. Is this really necessary?

The Province already enjoys a legislative self-government, thanks to a generous representation at Westminster where four of its main parties have won seats. What is needed to free it from colonial status is not legislative devolution but administrative devolution, i.e., the restoration of local government as in the rest of the Kingdom, though with control of the police remaining under the Northern Ireland Office as long as the emergency continues.

Where is the difficulty other than

in the inhibitions of the Northern Ireland Office and the ambitions of some in the Republic?

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY,
112 Eaton Square, SW1.
February 25.

From Mr David Trimble, MP for Upper Bann (Ulster Unionist)

Sir, Professor O'Leary (February 20) is quite right to say that "Mr Brooke, like his predecessors in the office of Secretary of State for Northern Ireland since its creation in 1972 has been following the principles first enunciated in the Green Paper, *The Future of Northern Ireland* (1972)".

Their consistency has been as remarkable as their failure. Perhaps it might occur to the professor that there might be something wrong with those principles if they have been so barren of results.

Yours,
DAVID TRIMBLE,
House of Commons.

Where to worship

From the Reverend R. Baker

Sir, Elisabeth Benians complains about restricted opportunities for worship in one of Norfolk's fine churches during this "so-called Decade of Evangelism" (February 23). The arrangements at the church to which she refers are not a matter for her (the wife of a former vicar of the parish) or for me (the Rural Dean) but for the people of the parish concerned and their incumbent. However, her complaint is hardly justified.

There are nearly 30 other anglican churches in this deanery, one of them in the same parish, as the church she mentions, offering a wide variety of opportunities for worship. Nearly all have at least one service every Sunday, some have two or three. Most would be willing to provide transport where necessary. If anything our problem is that there are too many opportunities for worship and the quality of it suffers in consequence. This pattern is repeated across Norfolk and across the country.

Of course, if people want to worship in a particular ruin according to a particular rite they are likely to be disappointed. If they insist on choosing the time and frequency of the service the difficulties increase.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT BAKER,
The Rectory,
Brundall, Norwich, Norfolk.
February 26.

Hooked by tobacco?

From Professor D. M. Warburton

Sir, Your leading article, "No smoke without fuss" (February 15), should not have described nicotine as "the most physically addictive of widely-consumed narcotics". The term narcotic refers to drugs which become or deaden. It is used medically to encompass all those drugs which are referred to as narcotic analgesics, i.e., morphine, as well as other opiates, like heroin.

There is very poor evidence for the occurrence of physical dependence in smokers, as the recent report of the United States Surgeon General, *The Health Benefits of Smoking Cessation* — 1990, shows. Certainly, there is not the stereotyped pattern of symptoms which characterise withdrawal from morphine or heroin.

Indeed, the term "addiction" itself is controversial when describing smoking. The 1990 surgeon general's report does not use the word once, except when referencing book titles.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WARBURTON,
University of Reading,
Human Psychopharmacology Group,
Building 3, Earley Gate,
Whiteknights, Reading, Berkshire.

Poles apart

From Mr Peter Howell

Sir, Your correspondent (February 26) signs herself Powell (as in Pole). I've always considered myself Howell (as in growl) but when, years ago, Robert Robinson read out a letter from me on *Points of View*, he managed to rhyme my surname with "cool". I've never actually been called Peter "Hole" though.

Yours sincerely,
PETER HOWELL,
Prospect House, Malpas, Cheshire.

From Mr Douglas Bruce

Sir, Miss Lucinda Powell looks forward to the day when she gets married, thereby assuming a surname less problematical in its pronunciation. What a happy alternative to doing the same by means of deed-poll (as in Powell).

Yours faithfully,
D. G. BRUCE,
Rümelinbachweg 12,
CH-4054, Basle, Switzerland.

From Sir Michael Scott
Sir, Introduced to an audience as Baden Pole, the great Chief Scout replied that his name was "Baden Powell, as in bathing towel".
Yours ever,
MICHAEL SCOTT,
87a Cornwall Gardens, SW7.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 2: This afternoon the Princess Royal visited Hampshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hampshire (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott, Bt). Her Royal Highness, President, Rural Housing Trust, opened a new housing scheme at Culverley Close, Brockenhurst, New Forest.

Afterwards the Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, visited the Fund's shop at 18 High Street, Lymington.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, Royal Lymington Yacht Club, attended the Annual Cruising dinner at Lymington and was received by the Commodore (Air Vice-Marshal Sir Alan Boxer).

Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

March 2: The Duke of Kent this evening attended the 25th Churchill Memorial Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta in aid of the Music Therapy Charity Limited at Bournemouth Palace, Woodstock, Oxford. Commander Roger Walker, RN was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE March 3: Princess Alexandra this evening opened the Commonwealth Carnival, held in aid of Sight Savers (The Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind) of which Her Royal Highness is President, at Clifton College, Bristol.

Princess Alexandra was received by Mr Robert Berrys, Deputy Lieutenant of Avon. Mrs Lady Mary Munford was in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W.R. de C. Cassano and Dr L.S. Ostlere

The engagement is announced between William Benedict de Cassano, youngest son of Mr Anthony de C. Cassano, of The Hospital of St Cross, Winchester, and Mrs Cecilia Cassano, of Fulham, London, and Lucy Sinclair, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Gordon Ostlere, of Bickley, Kent.

Mr H.G.B. Derrick and Miss A.M.J. Hanson

The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Mrs Meg Maxwell, of Ilford, Oxford, and of the late Mr Peter Derrick, and stepson of the late Mr Peter Maxwell, and Arabella, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Hanson, of Bodby Castle, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Mr J.M.W. Hampton and Miss T.G. Ward

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr Nicholas Hampton, of Sydney, Australia, and Mrs T.G. Ward, of Lytton, Grove, Putney, SW15, and Tamsyn, daughter of Mr John Ward, of Weylands Park, Cheltenham, and Mrs W.G. Fearley-Whittingall, of Springfield, Eastington, Gloucestershire.

Mr M.A.G. Isaacs and Mr B. A. Abrahams

The engagement is announced between Michael, twin son of Mr and Mrs George Isaacs, of Yeovil, Somerset, and Beverly, younger daughter of the late Mr and Mrs William Watson, formerly of Esher, Surrey.

Mr W.L. James and Miss L.C. Hackett

The engagement is announced between William Keith, son of Mr and Mrs Keith James, of Norton Curlew, near Warwick, and Lorna Christine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Hackett, of Merrow, Guildford.

Mr C.G. Murray and Miss R.M.P. Essame

The engagement is announced between Crawford, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A.G. Murray, of Bassett, Southampton, and Rowena, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Robin Essame, of Houlton, Devon.

Mr H.M. Walker and Mrs M.B. Swiney

The engagement is announced between Miles Walker, of Black House, Rowton, Telford, Shropshire, and Tina Swiney (née Brinshaw), of Low Bird Dyke, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Mr M. Wragg and Miss S.G. Harvey

The engagement is announced between Martin, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P.M. Wragg, of Morningside, Edinburgh, and Suzanne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs T.M.G. Harvey, of Conham, Norfolk.

Marriages

Mr L.G. Clearkin and Miss K.E. Varley

The marriage took place on reception at Sheffield Regent Office, between Louis Gerard Clearkin and Karen Elizabeth Varley.

Mr R.D.S. Hebler and Mrs L.B. Giles

A service of blessing was held at The Queen's Chapel of St James's Palace, London, on Friday, of Mr Roland Hebler and Mrs Scraps Giles. The Rev John Robson officiated.

Mr R. Hamilton-Godley and Mrs S.B. Ooster

The marriage took place on March 2, at Reading, between Rory Hamilton-Godley and Sheila Barbara Ooster (née Mottishaw). The ceremony and reception were attended by the bride's and bridegroom's children and grandchildren.

Mr D.C. Maybank and Miss L.J. Sims

The marriage took place in Edinburgh, on Saturday, February 23, 1991, of David Maybank, son of Mr and Mrs John Maybank, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, to Irene, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Eric J. Sims, Guadalupe, Spain, formerly of Glasgow. The Rev W. J. McLeod, read, officiated.

Birthdays today

Sir Arthur Bryan, Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, 68; Sir John Carew Pole, former Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, 89; Mr Kenny Delgish, the former football manager, 40; Mr Graham Dowling, cricketer, 54; Professor H. J. Eysenck, psychologist, 75; Mr Harvey Goldsmith, impasto, 45; Mr Bernard Hain, conductor, 62.

Mr John Hunt, former headmaster, Redden School, 59; Lord Johnston of Rockport, 76; Mr Ralph Kirshbaum, cellist, 45; Mr Stuart Mawson, ophthalmologist, 73; Mr Patrick Moore, astronomer, 68; Mrs Alana Sillitoe, writer, 63; Mr Peter Skellern, composer and singer, 44; Sir Keith Stuart, chairman, Associated British Ports Holdings, 51; Lord Vivian, 55.

Godstowe Preparatory School, High Wycombe

The School Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Frances Hanson, BA, to be Headmistress with effect from September 1, 1991. Mrs Hanson is presently Deputy Head of Thornton College, Milton Keynes.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Antonio Vivaldi, composer, Venice, 1678; Sir Henry Raeburn, the portrait painter, Edinburgh, 1756; Giovanni Schiaparelli, astronomer, Savignano, Italy, 1835. DEATHS: Saladin, sultan of Egypt, 1175-93; Damascus, 1193; Bernard Gilpin, the Apostle of the North, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, 1533; Jean Francois Champollion, Egyptologist, Paris, 1832; Nikolay Gogol, dramatist and novelist, Moscow, 1852; William Willett, originator of "daylight saving", Chislehurst, Kent, 1915; William Carlos Williams, physician and poet, Rutherford, New Jersey, 1963.

Henry VI was deposed by Edward, Duke of York (Edward IV), 1461; restored October 1470. The first meeting of Congress in New York, 1789. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution was founded, 1824. The Forth Bridge was opened, 1890. The first North Sea gas was piped ashore off Durham, 1967.

Barfield School, Farnham

The Governors of Barfield School have appointed Mr Barry Hoar, presently at Hawford Lodge School, Worcester, to succeed Mr David Warburton, who retires at the end of the summer term, 1991, after 27 years as headmaster.

Nature notes

FIELDFARES that wintered here are beginning to return to Norway; they gather in the fields, then set off in a large, loose, chattering flock, flying high and heading east. Lapping are back in the fields; they climb sharply into the air, then tumble and dive, their black and white wings flashing. As they fall, they cry out urgently with their familiar "pewit" call; as they fly off, their wings produce a strange thrumming note.

On the moors, curlews are beginning their display flights; they, too, rise steeply, but hang on quivering wings as their bubbling cry rings out faster and faster, then glide down into the heather again. Lacking song-perches in open country, this is their way of announcing widely that they own the territory around them.

Snowdrops are out everywhere, in small clumps under the willows, or in brilliant white



cascades down wooded hill-sides. But most flowers are backward compared with the last spring. A few snowdrops are beginning to show, but most of the hushes the twigs are only just beginning to show a silver glint as the buds break. In running ditches, wild watercress is growing thick leaves that stream out beneath the surface.

DJM

OBITUARIES

EDWIN LAND

Edwin Herbert Land, the inventor of instant photography and founder of the Polaroid Corporation, died on March 1 aged 81. He was born on May 7, 1909.

POLAROID sunglasses and 60-second photography were just two of the better known achievements through which Edwin Land revolutionised the world of optics in a career during which he amassed over 500 patents. Yet in spite of professorships at Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a string of honorary doctorates, Land was not an academic in the conventional sense and, indeed, never took a first degree from Harvard.

Edwin Herbert Land was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut. His father was a landowner and ran a scrap iron business. Land's first and perhaps most astounding discovery, was the result of an evening stroll down Broadway when he was 17 and a freshman at Harvard. He was struck by the glare from competing theatre and billboard lights and pondered a method of eliminating it. He applied himself with single minded dedication to the challenge, taking time off from his course at Harvard, and at the age of 20, announced his polarising filter. This eventually became the mainstay of the Polaroid Corporation which he set up in 1937 to market his inventions. It was the first of many discoveries in the optical field that eventually embraced work for gun sights and aerial surveillance during the second world war and afterwards. The camera in the U2 spy plane was built utilising his patents. The instant X-ray photograph was another of his achievements.

Land's name is also associated with the system which eventually led to instantaneous dry photographs in colour. As with the polarising lens, Land's inspiration to investigate this possibility led to instant photography being



born of an innocent curiosity.

In 1941 while he was on holiday with his family in New Mexico, his five-year-old daughter asked him why she could not see immediately the photograph her father had taken of her. His mind set to work. He later recalled: "Within an hour the camera, the film and the physical chemistry became so clear that with a great sense of excitement I hurried to the place where a friend was staying to describe to him in detail a dry camera which would give a picture immediately after exposure. In my mind it was so real that I spent several hours on the description." Nevertheless it was not until 1948 that the Polaroid system of instant photography was put on sale. Early instant

photography meant bulky equipment and the process itself was a messy one. But Land developed the system, refining it over the next 30 years until, in 1972, the SX-70 system provided the first pocket sized instant camera able to deliver dry colour photographs.

Land built the Polaroid Corporation as a business with the same tenacity he applied to developing his scientific discoveries. It was run in accordance with rigid principles, reflecting its founder's conservatism which nevertheless went hand in hand with a sense of fairness.

In its early years the company was never allowed to borrow money, choosing instead to finance its own research and product development. Land

fostered attitudes of self development in employment, encouraging his workforce to vary their jobs and learn new skills. With giants such as IBM, Polaroid became one of the legends of US business. By 1970 sales had reached half a billion dollars and \$1,000 invested in the company in 1938 was worth \$3 million. In later years Polaroid instituted suits for infringement of its copyright, notably against Eastman Kodak over its introduction of an instant photography package. The conflict was eventually settled in Polaroid's favour.

Up to the time of his retirement in 1982 when he gave up his active directorship and became honorary chairman, it was always considered that Polaroid's most valuable asset was its founder's knack of coming up with new, practicable ideas. True to his scientific background, he always maintained that financial profit should never be the only criterion for running the business. This led to several failures, most notably Land's persistent attempts from the 1930s onwards to eliminate glare from car headlights. Despite years of research he failed to find a workable affordable system that could stand bad weather. In the field of photocopying he was beaten by Xerox, whose system was more advanced than his own. His plans for three-dimensional movies floundered after a brief public enthusiasm in the 1950s.

Land was on Life magazine's list of the 100 most important Americans of this century and his personal fortune was estimated as being somewhere between \$500m and \$1,000m. But for a man of his wealth he lived modestly and shunned publicity about his private life. He gave freely to scientific research.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Maiken, whom he married in 1929, and their two daughters.

RANJAN WIJERATNE



Ranjan Wijeratne, Sri Lanka's minister of plantation industries and minister of state for defence, was killed by a car bomb on March 1 aged 59. He was born in April 1931.

RANJAN Wijeratne was in effect the second in command in President Ranasinghe Premadasa's administration. As official spokesman for the government after the weekly cabinet meetings he was noted for never mincing his words when he answered questions from journalists. Indeed, in May last year, when the government was having peace talks with Tamil separatists of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) he was so vigorous in his defence of the government's bona fides that he threatened to file a journalist who said he had evidence the LTTE were preparing for war. Ironically, a month later, Wijeratne was in the forefront in the campaign against the

man of the ruling United National Party (UNP) in 1988 after the earlier chairman had been assassinated by Sinhala extremists of the JVP (People's Liberation Front). It was a job for which there were no other takers. When the secretary of the UNP was also assassinated he succeeded to that post too and helped to hold the party together when many were deserting its ranks because of death threats from the JVP.

Nominated to parliament in 1989, Wijeratne was made minister of foreign affairs and minister of state for defence when the new cabinet was sworn in. He is largely held responsible for the destruction of the JVP, which was virtually holding the country to ransom in 1989 with wildcat strikes and a campaign of violence. But he was also blamed by some for excesses committed by the security forces in the south.

A natural leader, he was often at the war front in the island's northern and eastern provinces, talking not only to the soldiers but also to the people. A man who did not mince words, he made plenty of enemies but was respected for his honesty and dedication. A week ago he departed a foreign casino owner whom he accused of being involved in immoral activities.

He was given to dramatic parliamentary gestures. When there were queries on the defence vote by the opposition, he brought a catapult to parliament and asked his critics whether they wanted him to defend the nation using such weapons. He used a bullet-proof car but it had no power to stop the powerful bomb which ended his life. A colonel of the Sri Lankan army, he was promoted posthumously to general.

He leaves his widow, Delande, and a son.

Richard Harries

Importance of winning the peace

THE following is an edited version of the Bishop of Oxford's address to the diocesan synod on Saturday.

I WANT to deal with some of the deeper issues raised by the Gulf war, especially as they bear on the mission of the church in this country. The Christian approach to international relations and politics generally can best be described as one of hopeful realism. The word hope comes first. In contrast to all tired resignation to things as they are, to all disillusioned cynicism, the Gospel comes as the possibility, indeed the promise, of change.

So whatever the difficulties and disappointments that lie ahead we must continue to hold out hope, especially at this time, for the Middle East. During this conflict there has been shown a truly remarkable degree of international co-operation and resolve. Our hope must be that the same co-operation and determination is brought to bear by peaceful means on some of the other long-standing problems in the area.

During this conflict the United Nations has gained a new authority and strength. Our hope must be that it is strengthened even further. As a result of the victory of the coalition forces, international law and respect for the integrity of national boundaries has been upheld, albeit by the use of devastating force which has been painful for us all. Our hope must be that respect for international law throughout the world is enhanced, that international criminals and bullies, wherever they are, will be less inclined to steal small states.

But the Christian faith is one of hopeful realism. In contrast to all sentimentality and Utopianism we recognise the character of the world for what it is and know that we have always to work within very severe constraints. So we know that this is

not a war to end all wars; at the best it can bring a little bit more justice and security to the region. We will not think that by defeating Iraq or getting rid of Saddam Hussein all problems in the area will be solved, even though they will be easier than they would otherwise have been if he remained. Christians should be realistic because we take seriously the sin of the world, of which this was but one expression.

But an awareness that we live in a fallen world needs to avoid two dangers. First, the danger of self-righteousness. This war was, I believe, morally necessary to fight. But the faults and flaws and sins which led to this war are in us all. In particular, at the political level, we are all aware of how far so long the West overlooked gross violations of human rights in Iraq, how it engaged in almost unrestrained arms sales to her, and how self-interest as well as moral principle has been involved in this conflict.

No less of a danger, however, is moral relativism. We can sometimes be so conscious of the faults on both sides that moral paralysis takes hold. This happened in the cold war when some people suggested that capitalism and totalitarian communism were equally flawed and said, in effect, a plague on both their houses. They were not equally flawed, as the overnight demolition of communism by people under its sway has shown so dramatically. Similarly, there have been those in this conflict who have so pointed out the sins of nations in the Arab coalition that they have wanted to inhibit any determined response to Saddam Hussein's naked aggression.

Although we are all partly to blame, and no nation is without fault, yet choices have to be made. If it is not possible to see the moral distinction between Saddam Hussein's cruelties

and, for example, a Western oil interest, then it is not possible to see any moral distinction.

During this conflict the Christian Church has never lost sight of the fact that the Iraqi people are brothers and sisters, and many of them are brothers and sisters in Christ. We have longed for the overthrow of tyranny and the opportunity to renew friendships.

For many years the Iraqi people, especially the Kurds, have had to suffer under the tyrannous cruelty of Saddam Hussein and his regime. Our quarrel has not been with them and we will want to do all we possibly can to make that clear. But from this point arises another. The necessity in the future of giving greater priority to the world's political agenda to flagrant violations of human rights. The long, detailed catalogue of cruelties in Iraq has been before the world for some time. Why have we done nothing about it? Quite simply, because as so often in the past, balance of power considerations have been given priority.

Christians should have a particular interest in human rights, because they are about particular individuals, particular individuals who are being imprisoned, tortured and killed, who are unable to speak or worship freely.

We can no longer tolerate a world in which traditional balance of power considerations are given priority over the suffering inflicted on individuals by their governments. Furthermore, we need to be vigilant about our own life, about the immigrant laws and their application, about imprisonment in times of emergency. The imprisonment of Iraqi students does not reflect well on us.

At a time like this, not only during the conflict but perhaps especially after such a decisive victory, nationalistic feelings are to the fore. It is right to be grateful to the country and culture by

which one has been shaped. There is a great deal to be proud of in this country, whose political system, despite its imperfections, remains the fairest and most stable one in an unfair and unstable world.

Nevertheless, unbridled nationalism and patriotism is always a danger. Inner discontents and furies find expression through supporting war and battle; inner hatreds find a legitimate outlet.

Mention of our inner discontents reminds us that peace is indivisible, peace in our hearts bears upon the way the world goes; peace in our homes and in our church cannot in the end be separated from peace among nations. I have maintained from the beginning of this conflict that winning the war, however costly, would be the easier of the two tasks before us. The more difficult one is winning the peace.

The horror of war is not just that people suffer and are killed. It is that those we know are doing the killing. Ordinary decent people brought up to respect others are forced out of tragic necessity, for the sake of duty, to engage in actions which result in the hurt of others.

There are unresolved questions and unmet needs which can be met only in the mercy and justice of God. There is a tragic dimension to life which can only be met by one who takes that tragedy into himself and overcomes it. This is for "the whole world." Iraqi and American soldiers and civilians who stand behind them, alike. This is not to withdraw from the questions of politics and ethics. There is a political peace which still has to be won and there are always ethical questions with which to wrestle. But there is a contradiction, a conflict in life, in the depths of which we find the peace of Christ.

SERGE GAINSBOURG

Serge Gainsbourg, French pop singer and composer, was found dead in his Paris apartment on March 2 aged 62. He was born on April 2, 1928.

SERGE Gainsbourg is likely to be remembered less for his contribution to French pop music than for the degenerate image he cultivated. As a singer he started out in the mainstream of French popular music as it was in the Sixties and thereafter adapted skilfully to changes in public taste to retain for himself a following among successive generations of pop fans. None of this would have brought him much standing in the international — that is to say largely English-speaking — pop world, without the series of shocking gestures which accompanied the output of songs.

These were presented as the natural fall-out from a dissolute and riotous life but were carefully calculated. Thus the 1969 song "Je t'aime, moi non plus" which made him notorious in Britain through its being ostensibly a recording of an erotic encounter between Gainsbourg and his companion of that time, the British actress Jane Birkin, was, of course, a studio construction with both being passionate on their own in separate booths. But it worked on the fevered imagination of Sixties Britain, the fact that one of the participants was a British girl doubtless adding to its titillating effect on the Anglo-Saxon mentality. Thereafter an attack on the song by the Vatican newspaper, *Osservatore Romano*, and a ban on the song in Italy only doubly ensured its runaway success in the charts of many countries.

Serge Gainsbourg was born Lucien Ginsburg, the son of a Russian émigré nightclub pianist, Joseph Ginsburg. He was educated at Paris's Lycée Condorcet, from which he was thrown out for indiscipline, and at the École nationale supérieure des beaux arts. He started his working life as a pianist and guitarist at the Paris cabaret Milord l'Arrouille in the 1950s. He also began composing and won the grand prix de l'Académie Charles-Cros for his first album, *Du Chant à la Une* in 1959. Besides his more fringe writing he also created songs for vocalists such as Petula Clark and Juliette Gréco.

In 1960 he began a film

career with a part in *Voulez-vous danser avec moi?* and thereafter appeared in a number of features with such characteristic titles as *Erotissimo* (1969) and *Canabitis* (1970). He also composed the scores for a number of films, notably *Les Loups dans la bergerie*, *L'Eau à la bouche* and *Le Jardinier d'Argenteuil*.

He met Jane Birkin on the set of the film *Slogan* (1968) which was being directed by Pierre Grimblat. Their relationship lasted 12 years and produced a daughter, Charlotte, who is herself a cinema actress.

Gainsbourg also had a career as an actor and presenter on television where he seldom failed to come up



with behaviour calculated to scandalise audiences. On one occasion he was criticised for burning a 500-franc note on a live show. On another — this time the popular family music programme *Champs Élysées* — he made earthily explicit suggestions to the singer Whitney Houston to the predictable outrage of 17 million viewers, his employers at Channel 2 and Miss Houston herself. But such affronts were a carefully calculated part of his broadcasting persona, as was a reggae version of the French national anthem the *Marseillaise*, which brought threats of violence from right wing groups in France.

Gainsbourg's health suffered badly from his excessive drinking and smoking and he suffered a succession of heart attacks as well as having to have two thirds of his liver removed in 1989.

In recent years he had lived with Caroline von Paulus (better known as the model Bambou), by whom he had a son. A marriage earlier in his life to Françoise Pancrazi was dissolved.

SYDNEY TAPPER-JONES

Sydney Tapper-Jones, the last town clerk of Cardiff, died on February 2 aged 86. He was born on March 12, 1904.

SYDNEY Tapper-Jones gave distinguished service to the city of Cardiff for 43 years, becoming town clerk in 1942. Upon his retirement the office ceased to exist, being merged into that of chief executive. In the performance of his civic duties he supported 27 lord mayors — all very different in character and personality — and gained the respect of them all. In council and in committee he never sought to

usurp the right of the elected member. As clerk of the peace he sat with many of the city's great recorders, most of whom became high court judges and in one case a Lord Chancellor. His presence at the Quarter Sessions added an air of dignity.

When the city was created capital of Wales in 1955 much work devolved upon him — and he was masterly in the preparation of Parliamentary bills and boundary redistribution. No ceremonial occasion was complete without him.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, and a daughter.

Today's royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will attend a performance of *Miss Saigon* at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, at 7.35 in aid of the Entertainment Artists' Benevolent Fund.

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of the British Deaf Association, will receive the chairman and chief executive at Kensington Palace at 11.00; and, as Patron of Relate, will attend the Family of the Year Award luncheon at 1.30 in the Park Hotel at 12.40.

The Princess Royal will visit ICI specialities business headquarters, Blackley, Manchester, at 11.00; will view the Salford Phoenix Initiative's (Northern Gateway) exhibition on display in Manchester Cathedral at 12.00; will attend a luncheon at Chesham School at 12.30; will visit Winton Girls' School at 1.30 to mark its centenary; and visit Stockport Institute for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb at Waltham House, 112 Shaw Heath, Stockport, at 2.45. Later, she will attend the World Music & Chef Society's dinner at Claridge's hotel, London, at 7.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit RAF Stafford at 10.30 to meet servicemen and the families of servicemen engaged in Operation Granby. Princess Alexandra will attend a concert at the Barbican at 7.00 in aid of the RSPB.

Moira House, Eastbourne

The following scholarship awards have been made for September 1991:

Senior English Scholarship: Carl S. Scholten; Senior Science Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Music Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Art Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Sports Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Languages Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Mathematics Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior History Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Geography Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Modern Languages Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Religious Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Physical Education Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Citizenship Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Design Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Information Technology Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Business Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Economics Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Law Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Social Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Health Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Environmental Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Media Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Creative Arts Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Drama Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Dance Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Music Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Visual Arts Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Film Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Photography Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Journalism Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Public Relations Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Marketing Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Management Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Accounting Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Finance Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Economics Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Law Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Social Studies Scholarship: Peter H. Scholten; Senior Health Studies Scholarship: Peter H. 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Drinking in the Holy Spirit: young worshippers at St Barnabas, in London, participate in the charismatic experience that is, a survey says, attracting new churchgoers

Seven o'clock on a Sunday evening at St Barnabas Church of England church, Kensington, west London. In the predictable Anglican barn, a spotlight band of drums and guitars is strumming "Jesus is Lord" on the chancel steps. And the church is filling with hundreds of bright-faced young people in their twenties and thirties, many in sweaters and jeans after a country weekend.

There's a low, happy buzz, as if a concert is about to begin. The opening hymn is of the swinging, uplifting kind and soon has a fair section of the congregation waving its arms in the air. Later in the service, led by the Rev John Irvine, in maroon jumper and grey trousers, people queue to bear witness to the power of Jesus. Mr Irvine announces what he calls Words of Knowledge, cries for help that have sprung into the minds of church leaders during prayer — from God, they would say. If "Hans, who has been rejected, and Mary in a wheelchair, who might have MS", are present, they are invited to join the others who will come forward after the service, seeking comfort from the team of spiritual counsellors waiting at the altar.

Traditional Anglicans would curl at the toes. This is the Charismatic Renewal, the new Church of England at prayer.

Charismatic churches (where commitment to Christ is believed to bring, as to the disciples at Pentecost, the empowering of the Holy Spirit), together with evangelists, attracted the most new followers in the late Eighties, according to a survey

Praise the Lord, and pass the plate

released today. At St Barnabas the charismatic effect has been dramatic. Five years ago, the church had an ageing congregation of 20 on a good day, a roof in terminal decline and a caretaker vicar. It was yet another church which appeared to be headed for closure. Then a team from nearby Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB), a

charismatic Anglican church already bursting at the seams, took it over as part of a "church plant".

Church planting — sending cells of parishioners to deliver the charismatic message to susceptible churches — is a controversial technique that threatens a row within the established church. St Barnabas is a striking example of a successful plant. More than 1,000 worshippers now regularly attend the two Sunday services.

Mr Irvine's geniality and quiet presence overlay a shrewd intellect and determined strength of purpose. The son of Sir Arthur Irvine, the former Solicitor-General and Labour MP, and the brother of Michael Irvine, the Tory MP, he read law at Sussex university. He practised at the bar until, after "an early middle crisis", in his late twenties, he decided — with his wife, Andy's,

The Church of England is rocking to a charismatic beat, Anne Woodham reports

support — to enter the ministry. He came across the charismatic renewal shortly after his marriage. "Andy and I were struck by its warmth, authenticity and life."

His first, and only, curacy was spent at HTB. By 1985, the Rev John Collins, the vicar at HTB, was looking for ways to accommodate his overflowing congregation. "We wanted to stay within the denomination and framework of Anglicanism," Mr Irvine says, "it's the most effective way to work in Britain."

Because of the size of the St Barnabas building, it was decided to transfer "in strength", and 101 members of Holy Trinity volunteered to join Mr Irvine at St Barnabas. The then Bishop of Kensington, the Right Rev Mark Santer, agreed to the project.

The immediate problems were practical: no heating and a collapsing roof. "We had a Gift Day," Mr Irvine says, "and raised £20,000. I believe that God is the most important person in your life, and

would encourage all Christians who think likewise to give Him their best in time, energy, talents and money. A chequebook is a good indication of where your heart really lies."

Not only are members of St Barnabas actively persuaded to tithing, donating one tenth of their income, if not entirely to the church, then to deserving causes, but there are also regular appeals. The Church Commissioners pay Mr Irvine's stipend and that of his curate, Mike Clarkson, an American, but St Barnabas can afford five full-time staff and two part-timers.

A parish's contribution to the Common Fund, which maintains churches and schools throughout the London diocese, is calculated according to the number of people on the electoral roll. At St Barnabas, with its eclectic congregation, the roll is a means of registering those at the pastoral core and so, despite the hundreds who flock in every Sunday, it numbers only 312. Its Common Fund quota, therefore, is less than that of other, half-empty churches. Mr Irvine denies St Barnabas pays less than its fair share. He says £330,000 had to be spent on restoring the church, without an

allowance from the Common Fund, and a more equitable arrangement is under negotiation. None the less, while the principle of supporting the wider church is a good one, "the present system discourages growth", he argues.

And growth is St Barnabas's business. Welcome teams greet visitors and invite them to a newcomers' tea. They may then join a ten-week introductory course, at the end of which they are encouraged to make a commitment to God and to St Barnabas.

Some, from non-Christian backgrounds, elect for baptism by total immersion in a fibreglass pool under the nave. Mr Irvine agrees that it is difficult not to make it all sound like entry into a cult.

'The system discourages growth'

But it is the question of spiritual gifts that most exercises critics of the charismatic movement. Such a gift is that of speaking in tongues. Mr Clarkson, the curate, describes it as a disengagement of the mouth and tongue that enables prayer on a different spiritual plane. Other gifts — and there are said to be at least nine — include healing, casting out demons and wisdom and knowledge, as demonstrated by the Words of Knowledge.

"Christians believe in a supernatural God who cares for people," Mr Irvine explains. "We believe that His concern is real and imminent, and that He speaks through the Bible, through preaching, and through gifts. Like any good thing, there are dangers. Spiritual gifts without love are dangerous, but love without spiritual gifts can be perilous."

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Telling tales on the exiled Irish

Joseph O'Connor — a member of the 'Murphias' and the controversial Sinead's elder brother — is an artist with a mission

What distinguishes Joseph O'Connor's book from your average first novel is the erratum slip, which reads: "One of the characters in this novel, Dean Bean, seems occasionally to think his name is Charlie. This sad and probably drug-induced delusion occurs on pages 4, 32, 60, 108 and 110." This perfectly indicates the content of the entire work — Dublin's last Mohican punk comes to London to seek fortune as rock star, meets girl on boat, falls in love, fails a bit, grows up a bit, and gets to grips with his mum and dad. The usual middle-class coming of age novel, in fact, although this one, *Cowboys and Indians* (published by Sinclair-Stevenson on March 18, priced £12.95) is at least witty.

The name Dean Bean was based on a friend, Charlie Barley. His real name was Charlie Butcher but he changed it by deed poll when he became a vegetarian. I couldn't let that go to waste," Mr O'Connor says.

The interest in him as a novelist has a lot to do with people trying to spot which parts of real life have seeped into the pages, for the author is the elder brother of Sinead O'Connor, the shaven-headed Irish singer who came to London to seek her fortune, fall in love, etc, etc.

Mr O'Connor denies it. "It's not based on Sinead's experience at all. Thing is, Eddie Virago, the hero, has no talent whatsoever as a musician, and she has. He just thinks he can blag his way to the top." Like many a teenage boy, Mr O'Connor fancied himself as a punker, but "I was crap, so it was far more practical to write."

He is different from his sister in every way. He is sort of square-jawed, with big black glasses, where she is elfin. Politically, he makes sense. There will be no "Sinead the She-Devil" type headlines in *The Sun* for him. He is not about to publicly sympathise with Iraq or the IRA. Asked if he is on a different planet from his sister, he says: "Different solar system more like." They are not particularly close, but he is fond of her and proud of her achievements. She remains a baggage he must carry around. When he won the 1989 New Irish Writer of the Year Award, a headline read: "Brother wins literary award."

Irish writers are used to baggage of different sorts, but Mr O'Connor, aged 27, avoids plumbing the Catholic, guilt-ridden, nationalist stuff. His writing is about being Irish in exile. He came to London in 1986 after studying at University College, Dublin. "I've no interest at all in living in Dublin again for the moment," he says. "I came here because I couldn't get a job there. It's a great place for weekends, but eventually the qual-

ities of the place become its faults. It's very friendly, but if you're there for any length of time it's a drag that you can't walk down the street without meeting everybody. It becomes a pressure."

Mr O'Connor was probably also escaping his family life. His parents split up when he was 12 — not an ordinary event in the divorcee's republic. "I always have to think hard when people ask me whether I lived with my mum or dad. The four of us were shunted between them depending on who won custody, and there was a bit of running away from one to the other. It was very messy, very unpleasant and not the happiest period in any of our lives."

This experience underlies his book. The 24-year-old Virago is an appalling liar and philanderer. Mr O'Connor says that is because



Joseph O'Connor: revenge

Virago cannot come to terms with his parents' marriage being over. "When you understand your parents are just people like you, as entitled as you are to make mistakes, that's when you're not a child any more."

Almost all of the author's contemporaries have left Dublin. He says the Irish newspapers

make much of the middle-class brain drain replacing the traditional hordes of brickets crossing the water for economic survival. "No one is very keen to admit we export a lot of our problems — unemployment, homelessness and unmarried mothers. And there is a bit of escaping from the oppressive morality, too."

He is annoyed by the Irish belief that if you do not legislate for something, it will not happen. He points out that about 7,000 Irish women come to Britain each year for abortions, and there are about 70,000 people living in second relationships. "We live with these ludicrous double standards." He thinks Irish women are keen to see change, and is heartened by the appearance of the Independent Mary Robinson as president. "It's stunning. The chances of getting a left-wing liberal woman elected to be head of anything, even a local horticultural society, were tiny before. It's a sign of what might happen."

In the meantime, the Irish are still moving to London. "I don't want it to be Dublin on the Thames. I've got lots of English friends, too." The book refers to the exiles as "the Yuppies Murphias", of which Mr O'Connor is no doubt part. He grins. "It's revenge for 800 years of political oppression. We're coming over here to take over the media and everything else."

KATE MUIR

"If we had our own lottery, it would mean better schools for our children"



In America gambling is being sold to voters to help pay for public services like education. The **TES** reports

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Mind the children, please

Why the childminder has become an attractive option for career women

ON WEDNESDAY the Duchess of York will be at the finals of the Childminder of the Year campaign, and present the award to the winner. While childminders may not yet be by royal appointment, they are no longer simply a cheap option for working mothers who cannot afford a nanny or private day nursery. A growing number of career women are convinced that a childminder is a real — and often preferable — alternative to other forms of childcare.

The change in public perception is due largely to the efforts of the National Childminding Association (NCA), which was set up in 1977 to improve the status, conditions and standards of childminding. One of the purposes of the award, jointly organised by Peardouce, the nappy manufacturer, and the NCA, is to highlight the quality of care provided by Britain's 70,000 registered childminders.

If a working mother has only one child, a childminder is much cheaper than a nanny (the NCA suggests a minimum of £1.10 an hour, or £45 a week). When two or more children are involved, the gap between childminding costs and the wages for a newly qualified nanny narrows. But employing a nanny involves dealing with her tax and national insurance (childminders are self-employed), and household bills are likely to be higher if children are cared for in their own home.

Cost is just part of the equation. Annamaria Critchard, a senior systems analyst with British Gas, has two children, Bryn, three, and Aidan, eight months, who both go to a childminder near their south London home. "We decided we didn't want a nanny because we disliked the idea of sharing our home," Ms Critchard says. "Many nan-

nies are quite young, and I think I'd be more anxious leaving my children under those circumstances than with an experienced mother."

Ann Russell, Ms Critchard's childminder, has been doing the job for more than 20 years, three of them with the Critchards. Now aged 58, she has five children of her own. Mrs Russell says she prefers working for "professional" mothers because they are "more business-like — when they get a pay rise, they give me one. And you know they are not likely to chop and change. You won't get a child settled in only to find that the mother has given up her job and does not need you any more."

She believes that one reason why women prefer to use her services rather than those of a nanny is that "I can approach the job fresh each day. A nanny might have to get a child up and give him breakfast in the mornings and carry on all day right through lunch and bedtime. I know that I can just shut the door at the end of the day and relax."

Louise Crocker, aged 34, a languages teacher from Stevenage, Hertfordshire, who considered switching to a nanny after the birth of her second baby, Benjamin, says she decided to stick with a childminder because she felt

more confident about the standard of care. "Even though a nanny may come with good references, you can actually go into a childminder's home and see the children and their surroundings. And, particularly if you are a first-time mother, the childminder's experience can be invaluable."

Sreelata Tottingham, a civil servant with the trade and industry department, has used a nanny in the past, but now sends four-year-old Leila to a private nursery, while one-year-old Naidia goes to a childminder. "With a live-in nanny you feel responsible for them," she says. "You have to

think about their meals, about introducing them to other nannies in order to make their life more congenial. A childminder tends to be someone local, who isn't going to vanish because they are home-sick or Greece beckons."

Of course, using a childminder has its down side. Getting children up and out on time in the mornings is time-consuming. But as Jan Burnell, the director of the NCA, says: "Childminders are usually experienced parents, they provide continuity of care and if they are members of a childminding group, emergency cover is often possible. All of these are important to parents who have high-pressure jobs."

LEE RODWELL

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Mother at work: Ann Russell with Bryn and Aidan Critchard

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BRIEFING

Revenge en suite

WHATEVER happened to *The Revenger's Comedy*, Alan Ayckbourn's study of the progress of the modern English counterpart to one of Webster or Kyd's malevolent Italian duchesses? The play was successful in Scarborough in 1989; but transfer to London looked perilous, since it came in two parts, lasting five hours. Now Michael Codron has reportedly persuaded Griff Rhys Jones and Joanna Lumley to join him in defying the commercial dangers. Look for an autumn opening in the West End.

Glasgow boys

ROBERT Palmer, director of Glasgow's year as European City of Culture, and his deputy, Neil Wallace, are to be jointly presented with the British International Theatre Institute's 1991 award for excellence in international theatre. A course organised by the Creative Dance Artists Trust at Breton Hall College receives the award for international excellence in dance. The awards will be presented at the Theatre Museum on March 27, World Theatre Day.

Last chance...



José Carreras: In superb vocal form as Samson

JOSE Carreras, singing at Covent Garden (071-240 1066) for the first time in five years after his recovery from leukaemia, has been showing fine form as Saint-Saëns's *Samson*, his voice stronger than ever, in one of the heaviest roles he could have been expected to attempt. Carreras, with Agnes Baltsa as Delila, is appearing for the last time tomorrow.

THEATRE

Life must go on beyond the fringe

Where is the theatrical avant-garde, now that we need it? Jim Hiley laments the dearth, or death, of innovatory drama in Britain today.

For 20 years, the term "fringe theatre" has been routinely employed by journalists, artists and members of the public. It conjures up an image of iconoclastic talents in makeshift studios, hammering out alternatives to the mainstream fire of regional rep, commercial venues and the two big national companies. But the present-day reality of the fringe could hardly be more different.

The output of most fringe theatres has, in all but scale, become identical to that of the established companies. There are but a handful of innovative groups, their activities the least adequately funded and least reported. "Fringe theatre" flattens the majority and devalues the minority. Once, the phrase denoted a vibrant avant-garde. Today, it camouflages the neglect of "research and development" in drama.

A glance at the fringe listings in two London guides shows how far the small theatres have absorbed the showbiz values of the serious mainstream. According to *Time Out* and *What's On*, the Bridge Lane Theatre, Battersea this week offers a compilation of Broadway songs, mounted as a tribute to Elton John. At the Young Vic, meanwhile, Trevor Nunn—who is no stranger to Broadway—directs *Timon of Athens*, with another RSC luminary, David Suchet, in the title role. Pub theatres are occupied by such staples of the repertoire as Chekhov, Ionesco and Strindberg, not to mention more Shakespeare and that perennial three-hander, Arbutov's *The Promise*.

Certain venues appear to be listed as "fringe" for historical reasons. Islington's Almeida Theatre, for example, was a hotbed of Euro-modernism under Pierre Audi. But during the past year, his successor, Ian McDiarmid, has recruited stars such as Claire Bloom and Glenda Jackson for a programme stronger on classical authors—Jonson, Racine and Ibsen—than new dramatists.

The Almeida's demise as a centre of innovation was sealed by its autumn production of *The Rehearsal*. When Anouilh's melo-drama transferred to the West End, complete with costumes by Jasper Conran, it seemed merely to have reached its natural habitat.

There is no harm in Anouilh, of course, nor in glamorous names working in small spaces. But the

transformation of the Almeida betokens a relentless trend, of which the Hampstead Theatre, no longer an experimental club as in its early days under James Roose-Evans, is another conspicuous example.

Subsidies once earmarked for seed-corn projects now support routine revivals and boulevard "tryouts". In this depressing situation, the anachronistic categories of the listings reflect foggy thinking among critics, which in turn reinforces conservative funding policies. Because the critics and the Arts Council patronise the fringe, we—and they—somehow imagine that innovation is flourishing. The reverse has been true for a long time.

The London fringe and *Time Out* grew up together: in fact, for a while they seemed mutually dependent. Following the abolition of censorship in 1968, drama had sprouted in pubs, basements and converted chapels—even on street corners. Shoestring theatre became fashionable, then respectable. The National and the Royal Shakespeare Company built fringe studios, adding the Cortesloe and the Pit to plans for their new headquarters at the South Bank and the Barbican.

During the 1970s, plenty gave way to economic realism, and the new theatres lost some of their cavalier spirit. At the same time, the national companies began to move the less fail-safe classics and contemporary plays out of their main houses and on to their purpose-made fringe.

Nowadays, the word fringe is almost meaningless, as *Time Out's* theatre editor, Jane Edwards, admits. She has, however, been unable to persuade her colleagues that all stage productions should be grouped together, as in the rival guide, *City Limits*. "There is a feeling that out-of-town visitors would be confused if pub rooms were listed with the big theatres on Shaftesbury Avenue," Edwards explains.

But the perpetuation of myths about the fringe compounds a dangerous injustice. This is poignantly illustrated by the shifting fortunes of the director, Jastine Verma.

Last year, Verma was acclaimed for his all-Asian version of *Tartuffe* at the National Theatre. By contrast with the Almeida's classics, this was no stolid revival, but a



Daring unrewarded: a scene from the Tara Arts production of Molière's *Tartuffe*; the company is now facing extinction

freewheeling reinvention of Molière. Traditional Indian methods of performance were employed to contemporary ends, in a piece of total theatre unmistakably relevant to the resurgence of fundamentalism. This April, the show begins a worldwide tour, which seems likely

to win fresh kudos for British theatre. *Tartuffe* is, however, a National production in name only. The cast and other creative talents were drawn entirely from the Tara Arts Group, which Verma has run for the past 15 years. Crucially, the future of Tara itself is now in jeopardy. Wandsworth Borough Council has cut the company's grant, and it will soon cease production at its home base in

Earlsfield. While the nation reaps the fruits of Verma's endeavour, the local authority is busy extinguishing its source.

Tara's problems are by no means unusual. Over the past decade, few mainstream theatres have been forced to shut permanently (though

with new styles. In addition, they seek a more wholly theatrical theatre, in which movement, design and the living presence of the actor are valued as highly as text. If their output were judged on its merits—and not diminished by the label "fringe"—they might be considered less dispensable.

"The word fringe suggests a kind of agit-prop drama that is now almost extinct," says Deborah Chadborn of the theatre management group, Arts Admin. "But the funding bodies seem to believe that agit-prop is alive and well. They are just not in tune with new work any more." Arts Admin handles a number of the most impressive "performance theatre" groups, including Graeme Miller's company and the Sheffield-based Forced Entertainment Theatre Co-operative, both of which have won awards in Barclays' imaginative New Stages scheme.

"Fringe is appropriate, though, in the sense that we are marginalised by the press," adds Chadborn. "Our productions never get the same kind of considered coverage as straightforward plays. Because our work

emphasises the visual and physical qualities of performance, critics make the mistake of thinking it has no intellectual content."

The vigour of drama as a whole depends on the health of the avant-garde. This is readily acknowledged by the National, which sees garnering the best of the fringe as part of its function: following the success of *Tartuffe*, Théâtre de Complicité has brought its kinetic reworking of Dürrenmatt's *The Visit* to the Lyttelton.

"I can foresee a dangerous situation," says Giles Croft, who ran the adventurous Gate Theatre in Notting Hill before joining the National as literary manager last year. "We need to be surrounded by companies doing new things. We will atrophy if there is nothing left to feed off."

This unhappy state of affairs might be avoided if the "fringe theatre" myth were laid to rest. Hampstead, Almeida and their ilk should be seen for what they are: part of the mainstream. Similarly, the true innovators must be recognised as such and supported wholeheartedly. The best hope for the future lies with them.

Because critics and the Arts Council patronise the fringe, we imagine that innovation is flourishing. The reverse has been true for a long time

to win fresh kudos for British theatre.

When the fringe was born, left-wing playwrights were the guardians of radicalism in theatre. Today, the emphasis has switched from message to form, and the radical torch has passed to ethnic groups such as Tara and "performance theatre" companies. They are attempting to enlarge the vocabulary of drama by experimenting

some may close in the coming months), but many touring groups have already disappeared.

When the fringe was born, left-wing playwrights were the guardians of radicalism in theatre. Today, the emphasis has switched from message to form, and the radical torch has passed to ethnic groups such as Tara and "performance theatre" companies. They are attempting to enlarge the vocabulary of drama by experimenting

OPERA

One in the eye for the purists

Chief theatre critic Benedict Nightingale on an operatic view of a Shakespeare classic

Whatever else has been hit by recession in recent months, it has not been *King Lear*. In Britain last summer Gloucester's eye-balls were popping out up to 48 times per working week; and even now they are not securely in their sockets. The Renaissance Theatre production may have closed, but the National's version, which is touring overseas, and the RSC may still be preparing to transfer the play from Stratford to London; but here is English National Opera keeping alive the *Lear* market with, among other things, an eye that sends red paint squirting a foot into the air.

Nor is it only the ophthalmic surgery that proved spectacular at the Coliseum. At its best, Eike Gramsch's



Christopher Robson (left) as Edgar, Richard Angas as the blinded Gloucester

revival of Aribert Reimann's opera should thrill those who found both Nicholas Hynes's production for the RSC and Deborah Warner's at the National visually a bit arid. Moreover, those who are beginning to wonder if Gramsch really should be a house-proud matron pushed beyond endurance by male slobs, and Regan the hapless victim of a repressive upbringing, may find the evening's moral simplicities refreshing. There is something here for every theatregoer and, if he or she is imaginatively open, for every theatre director as well.

First, the caveats. The ENO should perhaps have reversed its practice and kept the libretto in German. Those even slightly familiar with Shakespeare will wince at what is, it seems, a translation of Claus Hennesberg's adaptation of an 18th-century version of the original. "He's an old man who no longer knows what's right and what's wrong," "I think 50 knights far too many" and (Regan triumphantly telling blinded Gloucester of Edmund's treachery) "He's on our side," this is the language of earnest social workers, anxious society hostesses, and malicious children, not of a hideously unjust universe.

The old theatrical rule does admittedly hold good to some extent: if you want to make something sound less silly, sing it rather than say it. But Reimann's score is all recitative, and as lacking in richness as in melody. Its dissonances

do not conceal all the libretto's flaws nor fully embody many of the emotions on display. Lear's reconciliation with Cordelia, the play's spiritual core, could as well be a semi-comatose quarrel, for all the warmth that emerges. But there are certainly times when the text invites sardonic cackles from the brass section, distraught screeches from the woodwind, rasps and growls from the orchestra as a whole. Any stage director would envy the atmosphere of fragmentation these create.

He would also envy the most exciting storm scene I have seen. The backcloth opens to reveal a square of stark white light filled with swirling cloud in whose billows, transparent paper wildly flutters and before whose force huge black drapes dance. Then the planked walkways that criss-cross the stage heave and plunge, leaving Monte Jaffé's doddering Lear to defy the engulfing clatter as best he can. The effect is to upstage the tempest simultaneously occurring in his mind, but the impression given instead, that he is the helpless victim of a cosmic gone berserk, seems equally true to the play.

This also fits Gramsch's obvious interest in the unequal battle of age and youth. Rarely has the divide seemed more extreme. Jaffé's Lear, for all his residual power, bends more than he stands and totters more than he walks, at one point collapsing into the

arms of the daughter he is impotently haranguing. Eric Shilling's Fool combines a gaunt face with the tattered white feathers and dowdy red comb of some decrepit rooster. Nigel Douglas's shivering Kent disappears prematurely from the action, presumably the victim of arthritis and hypothermia. Even Lear's knights look like battered cousins of the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*: joyless creatures in dull metal helmets who cover from Phyllis Canner's Goneril as she struts past, casually spitting into their faces.

With her black Mohican hairdo, tribal markings and gaudy green dress, she might have wandered in from some primeval Kensington market. So might Maria Moll's Regan with her bright orange dreadlocks. There is no attempt to suggest that either of these snickering, baleful creatures is anything but evil, and out to destroy a father whose crime is being old and inconvenient.

The effect is of course more strong than subtle. Visually, musically, verbally, this is not an evening for those wishing to explore the play's intricate innards or watch the shifting emotions of Shakespeare's characters. But then that is not the creative aim or claim. Rather, the opera offers a bold, brash gloss on Shakespeare's play. It is well worth discovering.

● Lear performances at the Coliseum are on Wednesday and March 15, 19, 22 and 26

EXHIBITION: SCOTLAND

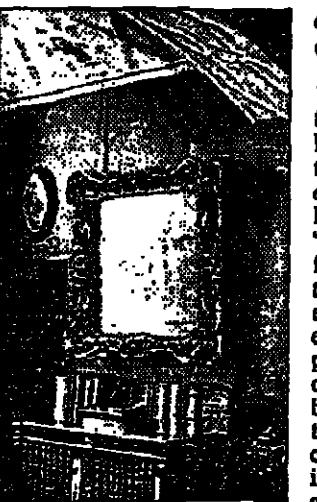
Turning over some old leaves

Donald Cooper

The National Library in Edinburgh is hosting an exhibition which celebrates the diamond anniversary of the National Trust for Scotland. It is called *Lairds, Libraries and Lullabies*, and as the alternative title suggests, a degree of imagination has inspired the curatorial concept. Lively shows are rare in libraries and a soporific public reaction to any liaison between these two particular august bodies would be understandable, in this case, however, it would be unwarranted.

Teatowels and toiletries—those staples of the stately home shop—seem to sum up the Trust's cosy, respectable image. But there are signs that an effort is being made to jazz it up.

You only have to see the public having past the library display cases en route to the mummies in the British Museum to conclude that books are hard to exhibit in any arresting fashion. No matter how attractive the bindings, nor intriguing the authors' marginalia, books as objects are not gripping. The National Trust for Scotland has avoided the tedium-trap by constructing a series of domestic settings. Children's books are displayed in a nursery, for example, while the publications of Mrs Beeton and her profession are set against a *batterie de cuisine*. The aim is to illuminate the cultural tastes of the previous owners of the home for which the Trust now cares, but the organisers have hydrated the dry facts of books with a moist element of fancy.



Laird's pride: part of the library of Fyvie Castle

Andrew Gibbon Williams enjoys a show that proves books need not be boring

On his Scottish tour, the composer Chopin was irritated by the way his hosts constantly vaunted their distinguished ancestry, good connections and status. Here, several finely engraved armorial book-plates testify to the acuteness of his observations on the snobbery of well-born Scots. When Alexander J. Forbes-Leith, for example, was elevated to Lord Leith of Fyvie, out went the gun and in came the new, more impressive badge of property. A mammoth bible from the newly-restored House of Dun near Montrose contains an exhaustive, hand-written family tree.

This insular mentality, however, is properly balanced in this exhibition by evidence of the travel mania of Scotland's land-owning class. In the 18th century, Grand Tourism, especially in Italy, was dominated by Scots; then, in the 19th there was the Empire to run.

Books such as the *Universal Traveller* of 1779 must have graced many a breakfast bookcase. Two such bookcases are included here (National Trust approved replicas, in fact) as well as a handsome, carved library table and two very decorative globes, one geographic, the other astrological. Completing this partial 18th-century library are those obligatory Grand Tour souvenirs, the Venetian scenes, if not by Canaletto or Guardi, then by one of their better imitators.

Above all, the sophisticated 18th-century laird was a practical and philanthropic fellow who needed to consult tomes such as *A New System of Agriculture* to help him in his Enlightenment desire to "improve" his property. Unfortunately, this public-spirited attitude was too soon eclipsed by the desire to emulate his southern counterparts, Humphrey Repton's cut-out landscape gardening book replaced farming advice, the Palladian vista haphazard cottages and, most tragically in the Highlands, sheep the crofters.

Better-educated Scottish aristocrats often ventured into

typescript of *Peter Pan* is one of the more charming exhibits.

When it comes to the nursery the range of books beside the china dolls and golliwogs is predictable. True, *Robinson Crusoe* was based on the Fifer, Alexander Selkirk, but would no Defoe masterpiece have been found in any posh Victorian nursery? Was not *Alice Through the Looking Glass* ubiquitous? It is probable that, as the last century progressed, the contents of Scottish landowners' libraries were not too dissimilar from their Sassenach equivalents.

● Lairds, Libraries and Lullabies at the National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh (031 226 4531). Mon to Fri 9.30-5, Sat 9.30-1, Sun 2-5, until Sunday.

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A candle held to brutality

THEATRE

Cromwell
Bush

IF THE United States Army had liberated Drogheda back in 1649, the television cameras would have focused on what was left of the citizens buried alive by Cromwell's Puritan troops, the children torn out of pregnant women — "their bellies were ripped up" — and spiked to death, and the world's shocked journalists would have asked: "What sort of people could do this?" The answer, as always, is human people; humanity in all its grim richness of qualities: beautiful, barbarous, banal.

In a sequence of 160 poems, mostly of sonnet length, though not all of these are sonnets, Brendan Kennelly sought something of this grim richness in the character and deeds of England's Lord Protector, Ireland's destroyer. Published in 1983, his sequence ranged from Cromwell's time back to the Elizabethan poet, Spenser, another Englishman hated by the Irish for his cruelty, who is glimpsed nursing his verses in County Cork. In the other direction, the poems take their inspiration from various bad times up to and beyond the present day, and include a tart vignette of Cromwell in the guise of a troubled football manager (of Drogheda United). The tone is sorrowful, or bleakly ironic, and achieves some of its best effects through a deadpan, almost dainty, accumulation of horrific facts.

The mood is nightmarish, and this is the note hit by Maciek Reszczyński with the selection of

the poems he has staged for his Kilkenny-based Theatre Unlimited. Across Helena Gorey's tilted set, the brass head and foot of an elongated bedstead suggest the wreckage of a raft beached on some muddy shore by the storms of history. Sleeping there is Kennelly's alter ego, Mr Buffin, buffeted by bad dreams that take human form around him, crawl out of craters, grip the prison bars of the bed and open up a grave beneath him.

Reszczyński is Polish-born and the influence of his country's theatre, notably productions by Kantor, show in the angular posture of these dream figures, their pasty make-up and the costumes that could have been flished from corpses. Chanting, boasting and sermonising around the dumbstruck Buffin (a non-speaking role), they certainly weave a complicated pattern of word and image, but after about half an hour of this, the density begins to press heavily on the faculties.

Reszczyński varies the pace. Characters writhe, stand still and watch, pop unexpectedly out of the stage carrying candles, topple backwards into the grave. Imaginative ideas are here in plenty but, as the poetry whirled on, it became a relief to speculate on the totally irrelevant matter of whether one of the guttering candles, sliding forward from its hole on the bed-head, would soon drip hot wax into Buffin's hair.

There is no attempt to make the bearded David Collins look like Cromwell; it is not that sort of play. Cromwell is a historical idea, one of the many that curse relations between what Kennelly calls *Little Island* and *Big Island* (Elsbeth McGrath), who announces her with a hauteur that



Vincent O'Shea as Buffin and Catherine Mack as Little Island

puzzlement colouring the view each island takes of its fatefully close neighbour. *Little Island* (Catherine Mack) cannot drag her feelings clear of *Big Island* (Elsbeth McGrath), who announces her with a hauteur that

suggests a conscience ill at ease. The acting is accomplished, the staging ingenious, but the part played by the wobbling candle should not go missing.

JEREMY KINGSTON

THEATRE

Purgatory in Ingolstadt
Gate, Nottingham Hill

A CRUCIFIX and a reproduction of Cranach's Eve dominate what appears to be a church vestibule, painted in the red sulphurous swirls of hell. A pregnant girl staggers on and vomits into a bucket while a bride and bridegroom process into church to a chant of Hail Marys. This is the world of Marie-Luise Fleisser's small town in Bavaria, a fascinating and ghastly brew of extreme Catholic piety, sexual brutality and ritual humiliation. Writing in 1924, only a year after the Munich putsch, Fleisser seems fully present of what but would bring forth: Nazism and Hitler.

Her writing bursts out like lava from a volcano — at white heat and under extreme pressure. In the opening scene one daughter accuses her father of never having loved her, the father attempts to beat, and possibly assault, the other daughter, then collapses in a paroxysm of self-loathing, while a schoolboy brother looks on with sadistic glee. This play, written before its companion piece *Pioneers of Ingolstadt*, explores the relationships of a group of schoolchildren. For Fleisser, obviously,

the world of adolescence is at least as cruel and violent as that of adulthood, and the effect is something like *Lord of the Flies* rewritten by the Marquis de Sade.

The focus is on two outsiders, fighting for individuality against the repressive conformism of their peers. Teresa McElroy's Olga has the haunted eyes of a Munch pubescent; casually impregnated by school fellow Pepe (Ignatius Anthony), she may have no idea what to do with herself or the baby, but shows that most dangerous of qualities, independence of spirit. She is both drawn to and repelled by Christopher Campbell's deeply disturbed Rolfe. Afraid of water, driven (long before *Equus*) to spike out the eyes of a dog, he too at least feels that there might be somewhere better than Ingolstadt. The fact that he is so different leads to his being stoned and then drowned in a cross between a baptism and an entombment.

This is one of several unforgettable images in Annie Castledine and Stephen Daldry's production which responds magnificently to the energy and intensity of Fleisser's writing. These two interrupted hours in the hot, cramped Gate may seem like purgatory in Kensington, but the suffering is worth it.

HARRY EYRES

THEATRE

Lear
Coliseum

ARIBERT Reimann's opera *Lear*, which opened on Friday night in a revival of English National Opera's production first seen two years ago, is only a dozen years old but already sounds conspicuously dated. With the music's surfeit of violent, neurotic, percussive or brassy climaxes, and its tendency to rely too heavily on static textual effects elsewhere, it calls to mind Pendereck's notorious *The Devils of Loudun*.

Moreover, *Lear* also seems to parallel that piece's wilful sensationalism. In its polarised Shakespeare, so that in the end there are few moments that make the characters seem at all real in their weaknesses and strengths or in the good and evil they feel and do.

Reimann and his librettist, Claus H. Henneberg, prefer only to stress the features that he on the surface, so that there is no sensation at the end that the chaos of mutilation and murder is anything other than a grim but thrilling story. That the whole pack of cards collapses through Lear's inability to trust that he is loved is largely lost in the muddle.

If Reimann thus does not serve

Shakespeare well, Elke Grams's production, the roots of which go back to 1985, suits Reimann's view of Lear perfectly. The setting by Eberhard Matthies, a stark array of suspended wooden planks, set askew, and the gaudily painted faces and roughly cut costumes of the singers, emphasise the crudeness of the piece.

There are one or two breathtaking effects, notably the storm scene, when dry ice is gusted onto the back of the stage. There are some tenacious singing and acting performances. Above all, Lear himself is given a tragically gigantic portrayal by Mogens Jaffe, who carries the extremity of the character well. The scheming, loutish Edmund, Jeffrey Lawton, though a caricature of a character here, is also given with purposefully evil strength, while Goneril and Regan (Phyllis Cannan and Maria Moll), looking every inch like the traditional pantomimic ugly sisters, scream out their parts effectively.

Christopher Robeson's stammered and then vengeful Edgar bears the mark of utter control both vocally and dramatically, and his father Gloucester (Richard Angas) shows a resonant bass voice and gauges his tragedy well. The ENO Orchestra plays Reimann's difficult textures confidently under Paul Daniel.

STEPHEN PETTIT

DANCE

Our Waltzes
Towngate, Basildon

THE slogan chosen by English National Ballet to publicise its present tour is "Adventurous! Creative! Self-Binding!" It claims. The last of these assertions must be a matter of personal reaction by each spectator, but the others seem highly dubious.

Proposals for a new work by Christopher Bruce were dropped

some time ago, so the nearest the dancers get to creativity is the company premiere of a work 15 years old and already shown in Britain by two visiting companies. As for adventurousness, perhaps the attraction of the programme to audiences is that it represents a nice, safe, middle-of-the-road choice.

The new production, *Our Waltzes*, is a sequence of dances for five couples by Vicente Nebrada, set to piano music by the Venezuelan composer Teresa Carreno. The South American accents of her waltzes add to their attractiveness, and Nebrada's

choreography is smoothly proficient, as long as the temptation is avoided of comparing it with the greater depths and subtleties of the obvious source of inspiration, Robbins' *Dances at a Gathering*.

In its more modest way, this work is pleasing, and was the best-danced part of the programme in this performance at Basildon. The purpose of these tours, by a smaller group drawn from the large company, is not only to serve towns lacking a large theatre, but also to give dancers the chance to try new roles. Some of the younger members of the cast made a good impression, in particular Christi-

an Duncan with his alert and romantic manner.

The dancers in Ronald Hynd's Edwardian comedy to Elgar's old ballet score, *The Sanguine Fan*, could have done with some work on the style of their bearing and behaviour, but it was interesting to see the choreographer's daughter, Louise Hynd, in her first role as the glamorous lady in red, and one of the recent recruits, Thomas Edur, as an admiral. The action was a little cramped on this stage, but Peter Docherty's designs still look handsome.

JOHN PERCIVAL

NEW RELEASES

AVAILON (R) Engaging personal saga about a man's search for his true self. Directed by Jean-Pierre L  aud. Screenplay by Jean-Pierre L  aud. Cast: Jean-Pierre L  aud, Jean-Pierre L  aud. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

BUDDY'S SONG (R) Roger Daltrey as an aging pop musician whose musical passion is revived through the musical talents of his son. Directed by Claude Whatham. Screenplay by Claude Whatham. Cast: Roger Daltrey, Claude Whatham. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

CEST LA VIE (R) Exciting autobiographical reconstruction by French director David K  nig of a childhood episode. Screenplay by David K  nig. Cast: David K  nig, David K  nig. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

GREEN CARD (R) Marnie of the 1940s. A woman who is a woman. Screenplay by Marnie of the 1940s. Cast: Marnie of the 1940s, Marnie of the 1940s. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

THE FIELD (R) Richard Harris in Thelma Houston's hit song. Screenplay by Richard Harris. Cast: Richard Harris, Thelma Houston. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated) with the symbol (L) on release across the country.

DECEMBER BRIDE (R) High tide of a strong-willed servant girl bogged down by a weak master. Screenplay by December Bride. Cast: December Bride, December Bride. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

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LAURENCE OF ARABIA (R) Screenplay by Laurence of Arabia. Cast: Laurence of Arabia, Laurence of Arabia. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

THE FIELD (R) Richard Harris in Thelma Houston's hit song. Screenplay by Richard Harris. Cast: Richard Harris, Thelma Houston. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

THE GARDENERS (R) Stephen Frears' comedy version of John Thompson's novel. Screenplay by Stephen Frears. Cast: Stephen Frears, Stephen Frears. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

THE RUSSELL HOUSE (R) Screenplay by Russell House. Cast: Russell House, Russell House. Screen on the air (77-435 3388).

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in

- 6.00 The Channel Four Daily
- 9.25 Schools
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 Garden Club A repeat of the first in a new series, first shown on Friday which included a visit to the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens
- 12.35 Business Daily Financial and business news service presented by Susanam Simons
- 1.00 Thames Street Education and entertainment for pre-school children
- 2.00 That Certain Age (1938 b/w) Continuing the season of Dennis Durbill films Here she plays the daughter of a new season's magnet falling for a sophisticated older journalist when he comes to stay with her parents A charmingly lightweight family musical featuring the Oscar-nominated song 'My Own' With Mervyn Douglas, Jacqueline Cooper, Irene Rich and Nancy Carroll Directed by Edward Ludwig
- 3.50 Joshua Kusch Australian animated short
- 4.00 Travel Report of the First City a series of the alternative music guide, Irma Kurtz and Sir Roy Strong go tramping in the country seeking rural retreats in Hertfordshire (1)
- 4.30 Countdown Richard Whitley hosts the words and numbers game, with Ned Sherrin wedding the dictionary and Carol Vorderman flipping the numbers and marking the sums
- 5.00 The Late Late Show Gay Byrne hosts the lively chat show from

6.00 **Brooklyn** Gritty blue-collar comedy with the retund Roseanne Barr and John Goodman (R)

6.30 **Tonight with Jonathan Ross** The guests are Brian Regan and Paul Usher from the cast of *Brookside*, fashion guru Wayne Hemingway and New York rap act Gang Starr with Steven Walmston

7 00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletext)


7 50 **Comment Followed by Weather**

8.00 **Brookside** Realistic soap set in suburban Merseyside cul-de-sac

8.30 **My Two Dads** Run of the mill American sitcom about two single men who inherit a teenage daughter. Expect all the parental angst and clichés as Nicole arranges a date with an infamous older

9.00 **Cutting Edge: A Special Hospital**
• **CHOICE** Claude Minge has just won a Royal Television Society

award for a previous *Cutting Edge* film about the treatment of mental patients on a Greek island. In his new documentary she returns to the subject of the human rights abuses at the psychiatric mental hospital near Liverpool and at the core of the film are allegations that patients have been regularly assaulted, humiliated and sexually abused by the nursing staff. The programme looks particularly at the case of Sean Wallion who was found dead in a seclusion 'cell' the day after being allegedly beaten up by staff. The police have been called to investigate but the police and the hospital have refused to accept any condition their version of events is not believed. Solicitors acting for patients have logged 600 allegations of staff brutality over the last ten years but none has been upheld. The hospital was invited to reply to the charges but declined. (Teletext)



A death in hospital: mental patient Sean Walton (9.00pm)

English-Spanish division: oil spill team (r)
 1.00 The oil spill in the Gulf port the Alaskan
 oil spill of 1989. The documentary an oil-spilled record of the
 shown last year in the *Fragile Earth* series. Eleven million gallons of
 crude oil spilled into the clear waters of Prince William's Sound
 when the super tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground. The film
 examines the devastating effects on the ecology of the area and
 on the lives of its inhabitants. Fishermen express anger at the
 threat to their livelihood. The film also shows the impact on the
 natural treasure and townspeople, excluded from the decision-
 making process, voice their frustration. The once homey frontier
 town has changed beyond recognition as thousands of clean-up work-
 ers and tourists have descended upon it creating a northerly
 boomtown out of the environmental catastrophe
 2.00 Channel Four: *Oil Spill* 2 p.m.

[illegible]

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- SPORT 29-34

BUSINESS

MONDAY MARCH 4 1991

Business Editor
John Bell

Presence of unions 'affects investing'

By Philip Bassett
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

CORPORATE investment is significantly less in companies that recognise unions for collective bargaining, a new study will show this week.

Government ministers are likely to use the research as evidence that the presence of unions in companies worsens their overall economic performance.

A study, carried out at the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Oxford University and to be published this week, is the first work that identifies closely the presence of unions in companies with lower levels of investment by those companies.

Ministers are becoming increasingly concerned that levels of investment are falling in manufacturing industry as the recession bites harder, and industrial leaders expect some investment assistance will be provided by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, when he delivers his Budget in a fortnight's time.

Economists have recently produced a considerable amount of work on the impact of unions, and though the issue is hotly debated, the most authoritative work suggests job growth and profits are lower in unionised workplaces. However, so far there has been little work on investment.

But in a study to be published this week in the *British Journal of Industrial Relations*, Kevin Denny, from the IFS, and Stephen Nickell, from Oxford's Institute of Economics and Statistics, use workplace and census data to show that "the impact of union recognition is quite strongly negative, indicating the presence of manual unions tends to reduce investment."

The study says that a company which recognises a union and has an average level of union density — the proportion of its employees who are members of a union — "has an investment rate about 23 per cent lower than an equivalent firm with no recognised union."

The findings follow an academic study last week that showed that, throughout the Eighties, pay increases won by non-union employees were consistently higher than those obtained by unionised workers.

The investment study says that once wages and productivity have been taken into account, then in the competitive sector, unionised companies have an investment rate 13 per cent less than non-union firms.

In non-competitive areas, either where the company dominates the market, or has only five or fewer competitors, then after taking account of wages and productivity, the unionised investment rate is about 4 per cent lower than the non-union rate.

The authors point out, though, that the negative effect of unions on company investment appears now to be falling, largely because of the progressive weakening of unions as economic forces.

A separate study in the *British Journal of Industrial Relations*, carried out at Surrey University will show that, in every year in the past decade, almost one-third of all pay bargaining groups used their annual pay settlements to change their working arrangements with the aim of increasing their productivity.

Confederation of British Industry leaders have been insisting that increased pay must be accompanied by improved performance, and the study uses confederation data to demonstrate an "exceptional" rate of productivity growth in the Eighties.

Citicorp wins £1m fight over swap contracts

By Neil Bennett, Banking Correspondent

CITICORP, America's largest bank, has won an 18-month battle against a Welsh local authority over interest-rate swap payments.

The settlement will encourage other banks to sue more councils to recover some of the £600 million they claim to have lost on the swaps.

The out-of-court settlement with Ogwr Borough Council in Mid-Glamorgan, which will allow Citicorp to reclaim more than £1 million, is the first success by a bank against local

authorities in the battle over swap contracts.

Ogwr is repaying Citicorp investment bank more than £1 million earned on five swap contracts it wrote with the bank in 1987.

The restitution, which includes interest on the original payments, comes after a House of Lords ruling in January that all swap contracts between banks and councils were unlawful.

Citicorp's case against Ogwr was due to be heard in the High Court in London last Tuesday, but the council gave

in to the bank's demands at the last minute.

Chris Ballentine, a director of Citicorp's financial investment group, said: "The council perceived they were not going to win and decided to save the legal costs."

Despite the outcome, Citicorp is still thought to have lost almost £1 million on its contracts with Ogwr, which the council would have had to pay if the Lords had upheld the contracts.

The bank started the action against Ogwr in August 1989 when it refused to pay on its swaps.

Citicorp has issued writs against eight other councils and is hoping to start court actions against some of them before the end of the year.

Swaps are complex financial devices which, at their simplest, allow borrowers to exchange fixed-rate debt into floating rate borrowings or vice versa, in return for a fee.

They were heavily used by councils in the Eighties to reorganise their debts and boost their budgets. Seventy-eight of the world's largest banks wrote swap contracts with almost a third of all local authorities in England and Wales.

The law lords decided, however, that swaps were speculative and fell outside a local authority's power to manage its finances. This annulled all the contracts.

After the Lords' verdict, the banks threatened to start legal actions against the councils to recover all the money they had paid out.

The local authorities which are the subject of Citicorp's writs are thought to include Blyth Valley, Dudley, Hackney, Redbridge, Sandwell, South Tyneside and Tyneside. Citicorp also has an action under way against Harlow.

The bank is believed to have provided £13 million against its swap contracts, but its settlement with Ogwr will allow it to write some back. Citicorp is one of several banks which decided to sue local authorities for restitution of the money the banks paid out on swaps.

So far, more than 20 writs are known to have been issued by Barclays de Zoete Wedd, Morgan Grenfell, Chemical and Midland, as well as Citicorp.

Other banks are still holding back from legal action in the hope that the government will resolve the chaos caused by the Lords' decision.

Mr Ballentine said he was pleased with the agreement. He added, however, that he would have liked to have seen a legal precedent set in court, but that "it did not weigh up against the practical realities".

The bank said the settlement showed that restitution was a realistic and viable option, but that it was arbitrary in its effects and not satisfactory for local authorities or banks.

In a statement, the bank said: "Bank and many local authorities stood willing to honour their contracts. The need to resort to further litigation is a source of deep regret."



Ready to move: Clark, who delayed decisions on which tank to buy until the war was over

Vickers confident of tank order after Gulf

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

THE government believes Britain is more likely to win the order for the new generation of battle tanks after the Challenger's performance in the Gulf war.

Ministers are expected to make early moves to convene the inter-departmental committee responsible for recommending which tank to buy. The principal vehicles competing for the £130m order are the Challenger II, which is made by Vickers, the British engineering company, the American Abrams, made by General Dynamics, and a version of the German Leopard 2, produced by Krauss Maffei.

A decision on which tank to buy is overdue, and Alan Clark, minister for defence procurement, announced during the Gulf war that the government would not be making any commitments until the war was over.

Mr Clark said yesterday that with the end of the war just a few days old, the government had not yet had time to turn its thoughts fully to the new battle tank.

But he confirmed that the issue was being "actively considered" by ministers. Commenting on the Challenger's performance in the Gulf war, he said: "Everybody is pleased."

Strong doubts were voiced inside and outside government that the Challenger would be able to withstand the rigours of battle. The war was seen as a full-scale field test of the tank's performance and an indicator of what a Vickers replacement would be like.

But although the German tank was not in the field, and so could not be measured in

the Gulf, and Vickers is claiming that on the day the ground war started, 98 per cent of the 190-plus Challengers were battle-ready — well ahead of the target.

In particular, Vickers believes that the 200-mile drive carried out by British tanks through Iraq towards Basra is an important indicator of the reliability of the tank, since 95 per cent of the vehicles completed the run.

Now that the war is over, the company is likely to begin pressing the MoD again for a decision on the tank — even a commitment for perhaps an initially smaller number of tanks than it hopes the final order will comprise.

After a New York presentation to American corporate bond investors, he said: "While the British banks are still among the strongest in the world, we will see no drop in provision levels (against bad loans) this year."

"As the recession bites, there is obviously going to be more pain. And even if interest rates came down by several percentage points tomorrow it would be some time before economic activity picked up," he added.

Key factors in the downgrading of both Barclays and NatWest were their huge exposure to investment banking and stockbroking and to the troubled American banking and property market.

Company tax cut likely, says bank

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

THE government is likely to increase the tax burden on the higher paid to fund cuts for companies, Lloyds Bank predicts today.

Christopher Johnson, the chief economic adviser to Lloyds Bank, says that electoral considerations rule out a harsh Budget to speed interest rate cuts.

The likelihood that the public sector will run a £7 billion deficit in 1991-2 rules out the £1 billion tax cuts assumed in the Budget documents a year ago.

If Norman Lamont, the chancellor, wishes to make a mark in what might be his only Budget, says Mr Johnson, he is likely to:

- Restrict income tax relief, particularly on mortgage interest and pension contributions to the standard 25 per cent rate, saving £1.1 billion;
- Freeze the income threshold at which the higher 40 per cent tax rate is charged instead of indexing it;
- Impose national insurance contributions on income in kind, such as company cars;
- Raise the excise duty on cars with big engines by more than any general increase in the duty.

The total proceeds of £2.5 billion could be used to ease the tax burden on companies, which has been intensified by inflation. This relief would probably come in the form of restoring relief on stock profits since the tax cost would automatically fall as inflation subsides. The "anomalous" 37.5 per cent corporation tax

rate on profits of smaller companies between £200,000 and £1 million could also go in a rationalisation of tax rates, Mr Johnson writes in the *Lloyds Bank Economic Bulletin*.

Coopers & Lybrand DeLoitte, the accountant, which has set provisional odds on possible Budget changes, disagrees with Lloyds, rating the reintroduction of stock relief at 50:1, abolition of higher rate mortgage relief at 4:1 against and changes in the basis of taxing company cars at 5:1.

Mr Johnson also predicts that taxes and government spending will need to be altered more often, because European exchange-rate mechanism membership requires interest rate and fiscal policy to be more closely meshed.

This could lead to a return of the mini-budgets seen in the Seventies but scorned since 1979.



Johnson: not a harsh Budget

Decision on firms for Kuwait expected today

By Philip Pangalos

BRITISH construction companies and the government expect to have details today of which firms have been awarded the first contracts for the rebuilding of Kuwait after the Gulf war.

The choices were made over the weekend by the US Army's Corps of Engineers, which has to select companies to carry out the first reconstruction work.

The first work, comprising contracts worth \$46.3 million, includes building work on

roads, sanitation and water treatment systems and electrical power supplies.

British firms involved include Wimpey, Higgs & Hill, Marconi and Bwator.

The more lucrative contracts long-term will be discussed later. Separate negotiations are being held by the Kuwaiti government over the long-term rebuilding, involving spending estimated at between \$100 million and \$500 million over the next decade.

Firms fear TV standard ruling

By Wolfgang Münchau, European Business Correspondent

THE European Commission is expected to rule this month on the future of High Definition Television (HDTV) and it might put a multi-billion pound investment at risk.

The companies which would lose most if the Commission fails to adopt a common European television standard are Philips, the Dutch electronics company, and Thomson Consumer Electronics, a subsidiary of Thomson-CSF, the state-owned French electronics group. The imposition of a common standard is regarded within the electronics industry as crucial if European technology is to stand any chance on world markets, but the Commission, like European governments, satellite operators and broadcasting companies, is split over the issue.

The Commission will consider whether to harden or to abandon a previous directive, which runs out at the end of this year. Under this directive, satellite operators are obliged to use the D2Mac television standard. The D2Mac suffered a blow when the operators of the Astra satellite exploited a legal loophole,

which allowed them to use the current PAL standard.

There are signs that the Commission might opt for a compromise, by which D2Mac would become a compulsory system in future, but sources at Philips suggest this would open the way to a plethora of differing standards that would be difficult to harmonise. The commissioners involved in the debate are also split. Filippo Pandolfi, the science commissioner, favours a hardening of the rules, while others, including Martin Bangemann, the internal market commissioner, want satellite operators to be allowed to choose their own system.

Philips, the company most affected by the decision, is going through the deepest crisis in its 99 years, having reported a £1.3 billion loss and embarking on a cost-cutting exercise that involves 50,000 job losses.

Some Philips managers, still haunted by memories of Video 2000, the company's ill-fated video standard, have admitted privately that the consequences of Europe abandoning the D2Mac

standard would be grave for the companies involved.

Officially, Philips remains committed to D2Mac and the company is lobbying for a toughening and extension of the current rules. Internally, it is acknowledged, however, that a more flexible approach is needed. While this would not lead to an automatic abandonment of D2Mac, it would involve the adoption of a more hedged position in respect of other technologies.

HDTV technology is most advanced in Japan, where HDTV sets already operate, but Europe is reluctant to adopt the Japanese system for industrial reasons and apparent incompatibilities. There is excitement in America, about digital television, a post-HDTV system, which would offer quality superior to anything proposed so far. Thomson will market television sets this year that offer cinema-like panoramic viewing based on the PAL standard.

Germany, previously a supporter of France's hardline position in favour of D2Mac, has also changed its position in favour of developing PAL.

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Managers face French with tears says BIM

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

MANAGERS need to improve their linguistic ability markedly, the British Institute of Management says today on the basis of a survey showing that fewer than half of them can understand a simple business letter in French.

British managers have an "unshakeable belief" that English is the business language of the world and therefore others are unnecessary, the institute says. But it points out that more than half of Europe is unable to speak English.

The institute sent business letters in French, German, Spanish and Italian to 3,000 managers. Of those responding to the survey, 44 per cent understood the French version, 14 per cent the German, 5 per cent the Spanish and 5 per cent the Italian.

The results of the survey showed an even worse linguistic ability when managers were asked whether they would be able to reply to the letters in the same language.

Only 23 per cent believed they could reply in French, while 9 per cent thought they would be able to write back in German, and 2 per cent in Italian and Spanish.

Sir Derek Hornby, the institute's chairman, said that, with 1992 and the creation of a full single market just round the corner, managers and their companies had to improve their linguistic ability, and that of their staff. Even primarily organisations based in Britain would find themselves dealing with European suppliers and customers.

Sir Derek, also chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, said: "More than half of Britain's managers liaise with other European countries and nearly 40 per cent travel on business every year, yet their lack of foreign languages is frightening."

Bonjour Europe - Language and the British Manager, by Gillian Pearce BIM, Management House, Cottingham Road, Corby, Northants NN17 1TT. £10

US airline needs sale to pay debts



Awaiting clearance for sale: one of the last Pan Am jumbos to taxi at Heathrow

Talks on Pan Am may resume day before loan is due

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

TALKS crucial to the survival of Pan Am, once the leading transatlantic airline, are expected to resume on Thursday, 24 hours before a multi-million dollar loan is due for repayment.

The repayment to Bankers Trust and United Airlines of between \$75 million and \$150 million is due on Friday. Pan Am was expecting to pay off the loan from the \$290 million it should get for the sale of its London routes to United Airlines. Analysts say Pan Am has no cash and no assets to sell, apart from the London routes.

The route sale has been approved by American aviation regulators, but has still to find favour in Britain. Talks between the two countries broke up without agreement on Friday.

The negotiations also covered a range of new practices that would allow British Airways greater access to the

American market. Talks have ended in failure twice in two months. Those involved, however, say some progress has been made and talks between delegates of both countries are expected to reconvene on Thursday.

Trans World Airlines' \$445 million sale of London routes to American Airlines is also yet to be approved.

The planned sales of Pan Am and TWA routes effectively replace two America's weakest carriers with two of that nation's most financially sound airlines. British representatives have expressed concern that the American moves would represent a sharp increase in transatlantic competition for BA.

America is thought to have proposed a temporary limit on the number of United and American transatlantic flights. BA is also expected to be offered access to Dallas-Fort Worth, where air traffic is

forecast to rise sharply over the next ten years to create the second largest airport in America by the end of the decade. One airline thought the two sides had reached agreement by Friday afternoon. TWA ran New York to London discount fare advertisements on the radio yesterday, promising the tickets would be honoured by American Airlines if American was the new owner of the London route at the time of travel.

For some Pan Am creditors, however, any agreement is unlikely to mean repayment of debt. The airline will ask the bankruptcy court on Thursday to release it from obligations to pay \$33 million to companies that have leased Pan Am 34 of its 186 planes. However, the American law states that an airline has to pay up on leased planes within two months of a bankruptcy filing or risk losing them.

Funding falls for foreign takeovers

By PHILIP PANGALOS

BRITISH companies' international ambitions have been curbed by the recession, with cash for foreign takeovers more than halved, reports KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock's Deal Watch survey, published today.

The survey says overall spending on foreign takeovers dropped from \$23.8 billion in 1988 to \$10.5 billion last year. At the same time, a survey from the Institute of Directors reports that confidence among business leaders plunged in the first two months of this year. Almost three out of four directors were less optimistic about the economy, compared with 50 per cent in December. Profits and business volume dropped.

The KPMG survey says that in 1988, British companies spent £1 on acquiring foreign operations for every £3 invested in new plant and equipment in Britain. In 1990, expenditure on foreign buys tumbled to £1 for every £8 invested at home.

Richard Agutter, head of KPMG's international mergers and acquisitions network, said: "The UK, in common with some of the most significant cross-border buyers in 1988, is experiencing a recession driven decline in cross-border takeovers." He said combined foreign buys by Australia, Canada and Britain fell "enormously", while domestic investment rose.

Capital investment at home grew from \$88.6 billion to \$102.2 billion as firms concentrated depleted funds on buying domestic assets to generate revenue.

The survey also shows, contrary to British trends, cross-border acquisitions by the leading continental European countries have risen significantly from a small base over the last two years.

● The worst of the recession is yet to come in the heating industry. Its latest state of trade enquiry showed that companies expected to be hit by the worst of the downturn in the middle of the year.

Retailers hurt by high rents as recession bites

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

HIGH rents extracted by landlords at the height of the Eighties economic boom are eating into profits of retailers already hit by recession.

The British Retailers' Association, which represents two thirds of retailers, is concerned that as profits dwindle in the recession, rents are accounting for a greater portion of turnover.

Mark Bradshaw, a spokesman for the association, cites one broadly based retail group that saw its rental costs rise from 9 per cent of sales in 1986 to 15 per cent by last year. As a result of such evidence, the association is to conduct a survey of rental costs among its members.

The issue arises from the high rents that fast-growing retailers such as Sock Shop were able to pay in the mid-Eighties. Such rents were used as the basis for renegotiating the leases of established retailers as they came up for renewal. As the recession set in, retailers came under financial pressure but were locked into high rents. Some shops in



Ackroyd: new basis sought

Knightsbridge, central London, and Brent Cross, north London, are paying as much as £300 a sq ft.

Most leases on retail premises come up for renewal every five years and are subject to "upwards only" rent reviews. There is no scope within the lease to drop rents although private deals may be done.

Keith Ackroyd, managing director of Boots' retail division and chairman of the retailers' association, says the

rent problem is not just recession-led. Projections show that rents as a portion of turnover will rise over the next few years, although in real terms rents peaked in 1989.

Mr Ackroyd admits that the problem was created by the retailers, but questions the fairness of a prudent retailer having his rent costs determined by a fast-growing group prepared to pay over the odds for a shop and as a consequence being forced to pay higher rents to stay put.

He would like to see landlords and retailers agree a new basis for determining rents. Rents based on a proportion of turnover is one possibility, a system used in America and mainland Europe, although he believes such a formula would not resolve all issues. He said: "Ability to pay is not taken into account. If landlords were prepared to take some of the risk, retailers would be prepared to share the rewards."

Clive Lewis, of Clive Lewis and partners, which specialises in marketing retail properties, says that while the situation was created by retailers, landlords in the United Kingdom have much more security than those overseas.

He said: "If a landlord signs a secure tenant on a 25-year lease with upward-only rent reviews where the tenant is responsible for the shopping and the upkeep of the property, all he has to do is sit back. Property developers can market these low risk schemes to institutional investors more easily than schemes in which they share some of the risks."

He added, however, that market forces are beginning to work in the retailers' favour, with some retailers signing shorter leases, longer rent-free periods and a capital sum towards the shopping. Some landlords, such as Capital & Counties, are offering turnover-related rents at shopping centres, while retailers are beginning to get tough. Boots renegotiated its rent at Brent Cross Shopping Centre with Hammerson, the "property group, down from £1.97 million to £420,000.

Economist urges tax spending breakdown

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE government should give taxpayers an annual breakdown of how national taxes are spent. This would complement the analysis of income and spending that local authorities have to send to residents, a study of the use of taxes suggests.

In an enquiry paper for the Institute of Economic Affairs, Gabriel Stein, the Swedish economist, argues that everyone who pays national insurance contributions should likewise receive an annual statement showing contributions paid on their behalf and the benefits to which they are therefore entitled.

This would be equivalent to the annual information pro-

vided on private sector pensioners.

Mr Stein finds that several taxes, such as National Health or National Insurance contributions and local rates or community charges, appear to be levied to finance particular spending but actually do not. As a result, taxpayers are misled and cannot make rational voting choices.

Health contributions, Mr Stein calculates, financed only 17 per cent of total spending on the National Health Service in 1989-90. Even before business rates were made national and domestic rates replaced by community charge, rates financed only 37 per cent of local authority spending.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Offshore trade threatened

LONG before 1992 was thought up by the politicians, cross-border buying and selling of capital, in the guise of the Euromarkets, served as a pan-European market of the sort that could only be dreamed of in Brussels.

How ironic then, that as the deadline for the single European market approaches, the Euromarkets should be threatened by a Community directive aimed at liberalising the international capital markets in Europe.

The Investment Services Directive is intended to create a "single passport" for securities firms. This would allow securities houses licensed by their domestic regulators to conduct business in any other member state.

But, according to industry

representatives, an amendment proposed by France, and supported by at least four other member countries, could threaten the primary position of the European offshore capital markets.

The amendment proposes giving member states the option to require trading of securities listed in that country to take place on the domestic market. If exercised, it is argued, the option would bring to an end the fluid Euromarkets of today and return European capital markets to their state of about 20 years ago.

There is a let out clause. One passage in the amendment proposes that "off market" trading could take place at the discretion of the investor. This suggestion is

described as "farfetched" by John Langton, the chief executive of the Association of International Bond Dealers (AIBD). "If you want to buy a Eurobond you should be fully free to go where the price is cheapest," he says.

Opposition to the amendment is led by Germany and Britain, the two biggest players in the European capital markets. Significantly, the proposal is also opposed by the Commission itself.

Many opponents believe the French proposal is an attempt to restore to Paris the trading in French equities lost to the London based Euronext system. Seag, which would not count as a recognised market, accounts for about a quarter of this business, undermining Paris's credibility as a rival to London as a financial centre.

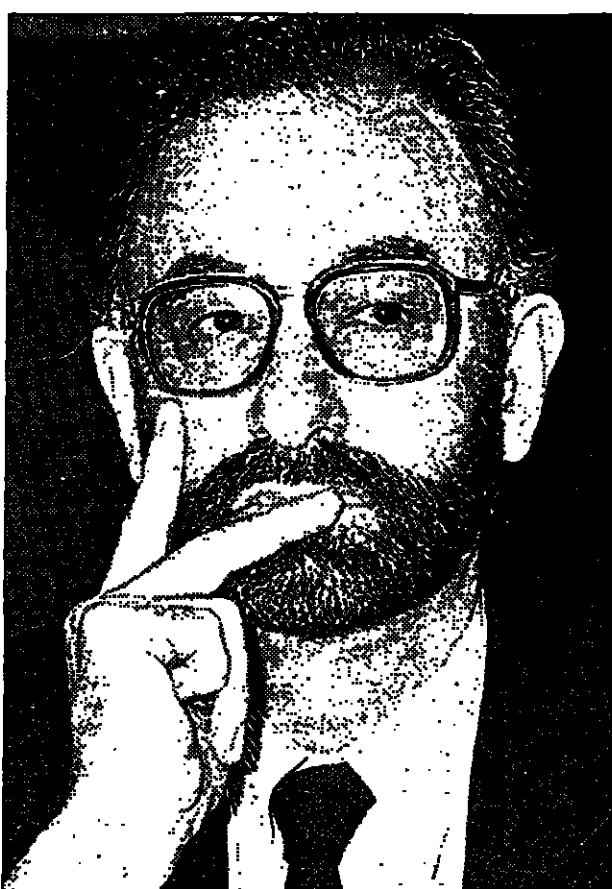
The AIBD, the trade body representing Eurobond traders and the closest thing the market has to a regulator, predicts a gloomy picture for the European capital markets if the amendment goes ahead. "It would destroy the concept of the liberalised market," Mr Langton fears.

A market in which mark bonds could only be bought in Frankfurt and nobody knew where to buy eu bonds is unthinkable.

JONATHAN PRYNN

REPORTING THIS WEEK

City bets on a Ladbroke winner despite problems of second half



Day: Cadbury is expected to reach £275 million

WEDNESDAY

Cadbury Schweppes, the soft drinks and confectionery company chaired by Sir Graham Day, is expected to show pre-tax profits of £275 million (£244.3 million), according to Smith New Court.

Market forecasts range from £275 million to £285 million. The company should benefit from a strong performance by its British confectionery and drink operations, underlining the resilience of food manufacturers in a recession.

GKN, the motor components and industrial services group, will suffer as a result of weak car and truck markets. Analysts believe that the full-year profits will decline from £214.8 million to between £170 million and £180 million.

SmithKline Beecham, the Anglo-American pharmaceuticals group, will report on its first full year as a new company. BZW forecasts pre-tax profits of £360 million (£723.7 million). Earnings per share are expected to climb to 41p (36.5p).

Market forecasts range from £240 million to £265 million. Final pre-tax profits from



Stein: Ladbroke profit forecast at £308 million

problems caused by the recession and the subsequent downturn in the aerospace industry and has led to airlines and governments spending less on higher margin civil engine spares.

TI Group, the specialist engineering group, is expected to report a respectable set of figures. UBS Phillips & Drew has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £124 million, against £111.5 million last time. Market forecasts range from £120 million to £130 million.

Christine Baker, at Nomura Research Institute, believes that historic net income at Ultramar, the diversified oil and gas group, will rise to £114 million (£102.2 million) for the full year. Market forecasts range from £105 million to £117 million.

Net income is expected to advance to £110 million (£86.9 million) on a replacement cost basis. A dividend of 10.5p (9p) is forecast.

WPP Group, Martin Sorrell's highly geared marketing services group, is expected to announce final pre-tax profits of £24.7 million (£75 million), according to Lorna Tibbitt at SG Warburg Securities. Market forecasts range from £20 million to £30 million.

However, the market will be more interested in an indication of what this year's budgets look like. Conditions are still tough and many fear they are likely to get tougher.

WPP's decision not to pay an interim dividend confirmed the market's fears that the group's cash flow has worsened significantly. No final dividend is expected. Further news is awaited on the refinancing.

Interim: Bailey (Bar) Construction, Brierley Investments, Creston, Kierwatt Benson International Income Bond Fund, Muscovy (MUS) Group, Petrol Petroleum, Principal Hotels, Renshaw.

Finals: Automated Security (Holdings), Baynes (Charles), Cassell, Ladbroke Group, More O'Farrell, MTL Instruments Group, MTL, Murray International Trust, Nichols (NJ) (Vimco), Parnos, Radco, Rolfe-Royce, Senovis AG, TI Group, Ultramar, United Plantations Africa, Vicalco, WPP Group.

Economic statistics: Housing starts and completions (January), house renovations (fourth quarter).

PHILIP PANGALOS

RENTALS IN THE TIMES

Looking to rent or want to rent your property? See Wednesday Rentals column every week.

Tel: 071 481 1986 (Trade)
071 481 4000 (Private)



NatWest announces that with effect from Monday 11th March 1991 its Gold Plus overdraft rates will be amended as follows: borrowing up to and including £10,000 reduced from 16.5% to 16% p.a. Unauthorised borrowing remains unchanged at 22.5% p.a.

41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

The One Hundred and Sixty-Fifth Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held in the Head Office, 3 George Street, Edinburgh, on Tuesday 26 March 1991 at 2.30pm.

By Order of the Board of Directors
A S BELL
Managing Director

Edinburgh, 1 March 1991

Standard Life

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National Power PLC PowerGen plc

Offers for Sale by Kleinwort Benson Limited on behalf of The Secretary of State for Energy

HM Government is now offering for sale approximately 60 per cent. of the ordinary share capital of each of National Power and PowerGen. The offer price of 175p per share is payable in instalments of 100p now and 75p by 4th February 1992.

This advertisement contains the terms and conditions of application, a guide to completing the public application form, and a public application form. It does not contain any information about National Power or PowerGen. It should therefore be read in conjunction with the full Prospectus dated 22nd February 1991 which alone contains approved listing particulars relating to both companies. Copies of the full Prospectus may be obtained, until the Offers for Sale close, from most clearing bank branches and post offices. In applying for shares in National Power and PowerGen you will be treated as applying on the basis of the information in the relevant Sections of the full Prospectus and on the terms and conditions set out in this advertisement. Expressions defined in the full Prospectus have the same meaning in this advertisement. Before deciding to apply for shares you should consider carefully whether shares are a suitable investment for you. Their value can go down as well as up. If you need advice, you should consult a stockbroker, solicitor, accountant, bank manager or other professional adviser.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has authorised the issue of this advertisement under section 154(1)(b) of the Financial Services Act 1986 without approving its contents.

SHARE OFFERS AND APPLICATION AND INSTALMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The approximate numbers of shares being offered for sale in the UK and overseas are:

National Power PLC	764.8 million	PowerGen plc	468.8 million
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(a) Applications

Applications must be received no later than 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 6th March 1991. Instructions on how to return the completed public application form are set out below. The right is reserved to reject, in whole or in part, any application. Once made, applications may not be withdrawn.

(b) No Multiple Applications

ONLY ONE APPLICATION MAY BE MADE FOR THE BENEFIT OF ANY PERSON. The only exceptions to this rule are Permitted Employee Applications (as defined in the Prospectus) which may be made by eligible employees and pensioners of National Power, PowerGen and Nuclear Electric.

Multiple applications and suspected multiple applications are liable to be rejected.

Criminal proceedings may be instituted against anyone knowingly making or authorising a multiple application for their own benefit, or that of any other person, either solely or jointly with other persons. Under the terms and conditions, an applicant can be required to disclose to the Secretary of State or

his agents any information about the application which may be requested.

(c) Allocations

The basis of allocation of the shares in the companies is expected to be announced by 5.00 p.m. on 11th March 1991. If your application is successful in whole or in part, you will be sent an Interim Certificate for the shares allocated to you. If there is heavy demand, you may be allocated fewer shares than you applied for or, in some cases, none at all. If your application is not accepted, all money paid will be returned (without interest). If your application is accepted in part, you will receive (without interest) a refund cheque for the balance of the money paid.

(d) Dealings

It is expected that dealings in the shares will commence on The Stock Exchange at 2.30 p.m. on 12th March 1991 and that, circumstances permitting, Interim Certificates will be sent to applicants allocated shares under the Offers for Sale on or before 18th March 1991. If circumstances require a revised posting plan, an announcement will be made. Applicants who wish to sell before they have received an Interim Certificate will only be able to do so if they make arrangements to deal on this basis. Applicants who deal before receipt of an Interim Certificate will do so at the risk of selling shares for which they have not received an allocation.

(e) Second instalment

You will be sent a separate reminder in respect of shares you hold in each company in advance of the date when the second instalment becomes payable, and this will be sent to your address on the relevant register at the time. If you do not pay the second instalment, your right to the shares may be cancelled. If you sell your shares, the purchaser will become liable for the second instalment (once the transfer has been registered).

(f) Overseas applicants

No person receiving a copy of this advertisement and/or an application form in any territory other than the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him, nor should he in any event use such application form unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him or such form could lawfully be used without contravention by any person of any registration or other regulatory or legal requirements. It is the responsibility of any person outside the UK receiving a copy of this advertisement and/or an application form and wishing to make an application hereunder to satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection therewith, including the obtaining of requisite governmental or other consents or the observance of any other requisite formalities and the payment of any issue, transfer or other taxes due in such territory.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

If you apply for shares in National Power and PowerGen (each a "Company") or (in the case of eligible employees and pensioners of National Power, PowerGen and Nuclear Electric applying under the Employee Discount and Priority Offers, the Free and Matching Offers and the Pensioner Priority Offers) either of them, you will be agreeing with the Secretary of State for Energy, Kleinwort Benson Limited, Lloyds Bank Plc, National Westminster Bank Plc, The Royal Trust Company and each of that Company as set out below. Completion of an application form for shares in both Companies will be treated as a separate and independent application for shares in each Company.

Offer to purchase shares

1. You offer to purchase from the Secretary of State at the Offer Price the number of shares indicated in your application (or any smaller number in respect of which your application is accepted) in the Company on these terms and conditions.

2. You agree that your offer cannot be revoked prior to 13th April 1991 and promise that the cheque or draft accompanying your application will be honoured on first presentation. The Secretary of State agrees that he will not, prior to 13th April 1991, offer any of the shares in the Company to any person other than by means of one of the procedures referred to in the Prospectus. Eligible persons duly applying for registrant preference will be entitled to registrant preference on the basis described in paragraph 1 of Section 5 of the Prospectus. This paragraph 2 constitutes a collateral contract between you and the Secretary of State. It becomes binding when your application is posted to, or (if delivered) is received by, a receiving bank.

3. If your application form is not completed correctly, or if the accompanying cheque or draft is for the wrong amount, it may still be treated as valid. In these circumstances the Secretary of State's (or his agent's) decision as to whether to treat your application as valid, and how to construe, amend or complete it, shall be final. You will not, however, be treated as having offered to purchase more shares in the Company than is indicated in your application for shares in the Company.

4. Any application may be rejected in whole or in part.

Acceptance of your offer to purchase shares

5. The Secretary of State may accept your offer to purchase (if your application is received, valid, processed and not rejected) either:

(i) by notifying The Stock Exchange of the basis of allocation (in which case the acceptance will be on that basis); or

(ii) by notifying acceptance to the receiving bank which processed your application.

The acceptance may be of the whole or any part of your offer and, accordingly, the number of shares in the Company you offer to purchase may be scaled down.

6. If the Secretary of State accepts your offer to purchase (in whole or in part), there will be a binding contract under which you will be required to purchase the shares in respect of which your offer has been accepted if, prior to 13th April 1991, both:

(i) the whole of the share capital of National Power and PowerGen (issued and to be issued) is admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange; and

(ii) the obligations of the Priority Applicants under the Priority Invitation Letters referred to in paragraph 17 of Section 4 of the Prospectus become unconditional and are not terminated.

7. You will not be entitled to exercise any remedy of rescission for innocent misrepresentation at any time after acceptance. This does not affect any other rights you may have.

Payment for the shares

8. You undertake to pay the purchase price for the shares in the Company in respect of which your offer is accepted in two instalments as described in the Prospectus. The cheque or draft accompanying your application may be presented for payment before acceptance of your offer, but this will not constitute acceptance of your offer either in whole or in part. The proceeds of this presentation will be held pending acceptance and, if your offer is accepted, will be applied in discharging the first instalment, which is due upon acceptance. The second instalment is due on 4th February 1992 (and for value by 3.00 p.m. on that date). Following payment in full of the purchase price the Secretary of State will arrange for the shares which you have agreed to purchase to be transferred to you. This transfer will not, however, occur before 14th January 1992.

9. If your application is invalid, is rejected or is not accepted in full, or if the circumstances described in paragraph 6(i) or (ii) do not occur prior to 13th April 1991, any proceeds of the cheque or draft accompanying your application (or, if your application is accepted in part, the unused balance of those proceeds) will be refunded to you without interest.

10. The Secretary of State may require you to pay interest or his other resulting costs (or both) if the cheque or draft accompanying your application is not honoured on first presentation. If you are required to pay interest, you will pay the amount determined by the Secretary of State or his agents to be the interest on the amount of the cheque or draft from the date of acceptance until the date of receipt of cleared funds. The rate of interest will be the then published bank base rate of a clearing bank selected by the Secretary of State plus 2 per cent. per annum. The Secretary of State may apply part of any payment received from you in paying this interest or other costs. In this event (or if the late payment is for other reasons insufficient) the remainder of the payment will be applied in paying the first instalment in respect of as many shares in the Company as possible. Any balance of the payment remaining will be held by the Secretary of State on your behalf and may be applied in paying any other amounts due to the Secretary of State. If the Secretary of State terminates the agreement to purchase shares under paragraph 11 below and no other amounts remain due to the Secretary of State, the remaining balance will be returned to you (without interest).

11. At any time until the Secretary of State has received, in cleared funds, the first instalment in respect of a share the Secretary of State may terminate the agreement to purchase that share. This termination will be effected by notice being despatched to you. In the event of termination you will pay to the Secretary of State, on demand, such amount as may be certified on his behalf as being necessary to compensate the Secretary of State for the losses, costs and expenses incurred or expected to be incurred as a result of the cheque or draft not being honoured on first presentation and as a result of termination (taking into account any

amounts paid under paragraph 10 above and any profit gained on the resale of the share).

12. If you receive any Interim Certificate in respect of the shares you have agreed to purchase before the Secretary of State has received, in cleared funds, the first instalment in respect of those shares, you shall forthwith return it to the receiving bank from which it was sent.

Instalment Agreement

13. Upon receipt by the Secretary of State in cleared funds of the first instalment in respect of any share for which your offer to purchase has been accepted, you will become a party to, and will be bound by, the Instalment Agreement in respect of that share. Accordingly, from that date you will be entitled to the benefit of rights attached to that share in accordance with the terms of the Instalment Agreement. Until that date the Secretary of State will remain entitled to the benefit of all rights attached to that share. Upon your becoming a party to the Instalment Agreement in respect of any share, the obligation to pay the second instalment in respect of that share, and the obligation to transfer shares to you, contained in paragraph 8 above will be replaced by the corresponding obligations in the Instalment Agreement. If, at the date you become a party to the Instalment Agreement, the second instalment has already fallen due and has not been paid, you will be obliged to pay that instalment in accordance with the terms of the Instalment Agreement as if you were a Purchaser (as defined in the Instalment Agreement) on the due date for that instalment.

Incentives

14. If you are eligible and your offer to purchase shares in the Company is accepted, you will be entitled to receive any incentive in relation to the Company you may have elected to receive in your application. This entitlement is governed by, and you must comply with, the requirements set out, or referred to, in Section 5 of the Prospectus.

Warranties

15. You warrant that:

(i) You are not under 18 years of age on the date of your application.

(ii) You are not, and you are not applying on behalf of, a US or Canadian person (as defined in paragraph 2 of Section 5 of the Prospectus) or an individual, corporation or entity resident in Japan.

(iii) If your application, together with all other applications in which you have an interest or in which any person on whose behalf you are applying has an interest, were accepted in full, neither you nor any such person would have an interest (as defined in Article 37 (in the case of National Power) or 45 (in the case of PowerGen) of the Articles of Association of the Company) in shares representing 15 per cent. or more of the issued share capital of the Company.

(iv) In making your application you are relying only on the Prospectus and the Mini Prospectus taken together with the Prospectus and not on any other information or representation concerning the Company or the Combined Offers. You agree that no person responsible for the Prospectus or any part of it will have any liability for any such other information or representation.

(v) If the laws of any place outside the United Kingdom are applicable to your application, you have complied with all such laws and none of the parties mentioned at the top of these terms and conditions will infringe any laws outside the United Kingdom as a result of the acceptance of your offer to purchase or any actions arising from your rights and obligations under these terms and conditions, the Instalment Agreement and the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RETURN OF THE PUBLIC APPLICATION FORM

BYPOST

SEND YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM
TO ARRIVE NOT LATER THAN
10.00 AM ON WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH 1991 at
the appropriate address immediately below
according to the first letter of your surname
(or corporate name) inserted in Box 1.

A to K

Bank of Scotland,
New Issues Department,
Apex House,
9 Haddington Place,
Edinburgh EH7 4AL

L to Z

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc,
Registrar's Department,
P. O. Box No 7,
Canning House, 19 Canning Street,
Edinburgh EH3 8TE

ALLOW AT LEAST TWO DAYS FOR DELIVERY

BY HAND

TAKE THE FORM BY HAND
BEFORE 3.30 PM ON TUESDAY 5TH MARCH 1991
to any UK branch of
Lloyds, Barclays, NatWest, Bank of Scotland,
The Royal Bank of Scotland or Ulster Bank

OR TAKE THE FORM BY HAND BEFORE

10.00 AM ON WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH 1991
TO ANY OF THE RECEIVING CENTRES LISTED OPPOSITE

(open only for deliveries by hand)

Belfast
Ulster Bank Limited,
Personal Investments Unit,
68/70 High Street,
Belfast

Birmingham
Lloyds Bank Plc,
125 Colmore Row,
Birmingham

Bristol
National Westminster Bank Plc,
32 Corn Street,
Bristol

Cardiff
Barclays Bank Plc,
121 Queen Street,
Cardiff

Edinburgh
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc,
36 St. Andrew Square,
Edinburgh

Exeter
Lloyds Bank Plc,
234 High Street,
Exeter

Glasgow
Bank of Scotland,
110 St. Vincent Street,
Glasgow

Leeds
National Westminster Bank Plc,
8 Park Row,
Leeds

Liverpool
Barclays Bank Plc,
4 Water Street,
Liverpool

London
Lloyds Bank Plc,
Registrar's Department,
Issue Section,
2nd Floor, Boleyn House,
60 Cheapside,
London EC2

National Westminster Bank Plc,
New Issues Department,
21 Piccadilly Street,
London EC2

Barclays Bank Plc,
New Issues,
Fleamway House,
25 Farringdon Street,
London EC4

Manchester
National Westminster Bank Plc,
55 King Street,
Manchester

Newcastle Upon Tyne
Bank of Scotland,
62/66 Grey Street,
Newcastle Upon Tyne

Norwich
Barclays Bank Plc,
Bank Plain,
Norwich

Nottingham
Lloyds Bank Plc,
Old Market Square,
Nottingham

Peterborough
Lloyds Bank Plc,
Angon Court,
Northminster Road,
Peterborough

Plymouth
Barclays Bank Plc,
19 Princess Street,
Plymouth

Southampton
Lloyds Bank Plc,
19/21 High Street,
Southampton

Jersey
Lloyds Bank Plc,
9 Broad Street,
St. Helier,
Jersey

Guernsey
National Westminster Bank Plc,
35 High Street,
St. Peter Port,
Guernsey

هكزان الشامل

TRAINING



Re your "Investing in Plant" memo sir.
This is Mr. Plank from R&D.

ENTERPRISE

TECs have been created to unlock the potential of individuals, companies and communities across England and Wales.

Your area is covered by one of the eighty two Training and Enterprise Councils which are planning and investing in training, education and business development.

They're run by top local employers and community leaders with Government financing, so they are a balance of sharply focused local knowledge backed by national strength.

Telephone us today for further information on how TECs work and more importantly how yours will work for you on 0800 444 246.

COUNCILS

TECs UNLOCK POTENTIAL

TEC



مركز العمل

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E
1	Messers (D)	Building, Roads	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
2	Docus	Industrial A-D	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
3	NMC Group	Industrial L-R	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
4	Cater Allen	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
5	Wood (Arthur)	Industrial S-Z	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
6	BNB Res	Finance, Pensions	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
7	Sidley	Industrial L-R	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
8	Mile Gp	Industrial L-R	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
9	Linton Park	Industrial L-R	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
10	Bellway	Industrial A-D	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
11	Ban	Drugs, Stores	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
12	Waters Cleaners	Industrial E-K	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
13	Waters Selection	Electricals	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
14	Academy	Industrial A-D	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
15	Everest	Building, Roads	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
16	Pitman Group	Drugs, Stores	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
17	Burton	Drugs, Stores	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
18	Bellway	Building, Roads	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
19	Firearm	Industrial E-K	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
20	Nestor-SNA	Industrial L-R	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
21	Lyles (S)	Textiles	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
22	Waddington (D)	Paper, Print, Adv	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
23	Canning (W)	Chemicals, Plastics	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
24	Seville	Property	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
25	Carlton	Industrial E-K	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
26	Ryl Bk Sot	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
27	Crude	Chemicals, Plastics	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
28	Hambleton	Chemicals, Plastics	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
29	Orford Instruments	Electricals	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
30	Redwood 'P'	Textiles	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
31	Albion Mead	Paper, Print, Adv	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
32	Sax & New	Textiles	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
33	Hoskins Gp	Electricals	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
34	Owners Abroad	Leisure	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
35	Brammer	Industrial A-D	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
36	Parkins Food	Food	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
37	Card Gp	Chemicals, Plastics	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
38	Sater	Industrial S-Z	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
39	Cyclist & Med	Industrial L-R	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
40	Marshall	Building, Roads	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
41	Carlisle Math	Industrial E-K	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
42	Triplex Lloyd	Leisure	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
43	Marshall (W)	Industrial S-Z	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
44	Marshall (W)	Food	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend					
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of \$4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

The weekly Portfolio Platinum prize of \$3,000 is shared equally between Mr John McCree, of Farnham, Surrey, and Mr Cavil Cullif, of East Barnet, Hertfordshire.

BRITISH FUNDS					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

SHORTS (Under Five Years)					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

UNDATED					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

INDEX-LINKED					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

ELECTRICALS					
Stock	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E	Yield

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalisation and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 25. Dealings end March 8. Contango day March 11. Settlement day March 18.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices.

Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

BREWERIES					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

BUILDING, ROADS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

ELECTRICITY					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

FINANCE, LAND					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

DRAPERY, STORES					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

ELECTRICITY					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

FINANCE, LAND					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

DRAPERY, STORES					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

ELECTRICITY					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

FINANCE, LAND					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
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ELECTRICITY					
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DRAPERY, STORES					
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HOTELS, CATERERS					
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CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
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DRAPERY, STORES					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

ELECTRICITY					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

FINANCE, LAND					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

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PROPERTY					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

LEISURE					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

MINING					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

SHOES, LEATHER					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

TEXTILES					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

TOBACCOS					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

TRANSPORT					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

WATER					
Company	Price	Div	Gain	Loss	P/E

© Ex dividend = Ex at forecast dividend & interim payment passed. P/E at suspension of dividend. Yield includes a special payment & pre-market figures. Forward earnings & Ex other = Ex rights & Ex scrip or share split. 125-400 ... No significant data.

When school ends work begins

As more parents hire private coaching for their children, doubts are being expressed about the tutors' role, some moonlighting from state schools, and the pressures on pupils. Anne Woodham reports

At four o'clock, Jennifer Preston's doorbell rings. The first of her afternoon pupils has arrived. For the next two hours she will lead the way through the labyrinth of the comma and the full stop, wrestle with the perils of the nine-times table and reveal the glories of multiplication and division.

In short, she teaches basic English comprehension, reading and mathematics. Occasionally, if a parent is frantic, she will squeeze in an extra hour before school.

Mrs Preston is a respected private tutor with a waiting list of pupils, some as young as seven, stretching into 1993. Extra tuition has never been in such demand, and reaches a peak at Easter as public examinations approach.

To meet the demand, teachers at some state and independent schools are moonlighting to pick up an extra £10, £15, or even £20 an hour. Retired teachers, or those at home with young children of their own, are finding that parents, often neighbours, are begging them to give "a bit of extra coaching".

As in many cottage industries, there are no rules or safeguards. Bookings usually come by word of mouth or from a card in a shop window. Qualifications and experience must often be taken on trust, and fees are negotiable. Yet many tutors are uneasy about the growing market in which thousands of children come home from school for another bout of teaching, and often more homework.

Our whole existence is an indictment of the education system," says Dr Karina Halstead, of Home Tutors, a teachers' co-operative at the more organised end of the spectrum. The organisation has about 1,000 members, many working full-time in the state sector, who go to pupils' homes all over London. Travel expenses are added to the minimum hourly fee of £8.50.

Requests for extra tuition fall into two broad categories, both, rightly or wrongly, reflecting parents' dissatisfaction with state education standards. The first is remedial, in which a child has failed to grasp basic rules in a subject such as maths. The second type of request is for help to repair damage suffered from a school's poor choice of reading scheme.

Dr Halstead says: "Schools are under-resourced and under-staffed." She suspects that the national curriculum, when it is in place, could be a yardstick to prompt even more parents to resort to private tutoring.

In the right circumstances, remedial tuition can be a boon. "Matthew blossomed almost over-



Jennifer Preston, a private tutor, gives a pupil help: "I am against children being coached for exams"

night when he started maths coaching," says Pamela Harrison, whose seven-year-old son was at a south London state primary school. "Just sitting with someone who encouraged him and went at his pace gave him a boost of confidence."

Middle-class parents are the quickest to call in a coach, says the headmistress of a west London comprehensive. She considers coaching harmless, but unnecessary, because many GCSE subjects are marked on course work, and feels outside help on maths and physics can present real dangers.

Parents, aided and abetted by a tutor who may be out of touch with the latest syllabus, are often convinced that their child should sit a higher paper than the one for which the school has entered him. "If a child who is not up to it sits

the tougher exam and fails," the headmistress says, "he will get a lower grade than if he sat only the straight paper."

Dr Halstead says that she advises parents to tell the school if they are employing a coach. In certain circumstances, where remedial tuition is not available on site, a school will even suggest that a little extra work might help.

However, there are other, perhaps more disturbing, situations in which parents like to keep their child's coaching as discreet as possible, and it is these that occupy the bulk of private tuition.

The reason for their secrecy is that an increasing number of parents are seeking independent education, particularly those with children at day schools. In cities such as London and Birmingham, there are not enough places to go around. Competition has become

cut-throat. For example, at Colet Court, the prep school for St Paul's, in London, the 1990 entry list has closed. Only 72 of the 150 boys of seven who battled through a rigorous exam this January will enter the school in September.

With stakes so high, some parents will stop at almost nothing to make sure their child is among the favoured few. For example, a seven-year-old already at a "hot-house" private school went to two separate tutors a week.

Deborah Davis sent her nine-year-old son Tom to a coach in Chiswick, west London, where a group of six children ploughed through reams of sums from a computer. What was not completed was taken home to finish.

"It was not as much of a sweatshop as you would think," she insists, "and they each were given a Penguin bar when they

finished. What was a revelation to me was that two-thirds of the children there were prep school pupils."

Billy Howard, the headmaster of Colet Court, says children at private pre-prep schools do not need coaching for the entrance exam. "If they cannot manage, they should not come here," he says. "If, however, they are at some woolly state school where they are not taught to set out their sums and learn tables, we suggest one or two hours a week for a term or two."

Mike and Jane Cook sent their son Nico to Susie Morgan, recommended by Mr Howard, for a term before the entrance exam. "He was at the local state primary school and had not even begun to learn his tables," Mrs Cook says. Nico did not mind the extra work. He is a bright boy and now tops his class.

Mrs Morgan warns parents if she thinks their child stands little chance of success, but says demand has grown in the past ten years. She adds: "It gives an enormous sense of achievement to have a child for a year and see them blossom."

Mrs Preston, who has an extra qualification in special needs, took up private tutoring when "One-to-one attention can help a child's self-esteem," she says.

The pleasure of working on an individual basis is also one reason - apart from the money - why state school teachers, struggling to control classes of more than 30 children, often like a little coaching work on the side.

"But I am against children being coached for exams and I make this clear to the parents," Mrs Preston says. "It's not fair on them."

To be fair to schools setting entrance exams, they do their utmost to make an honest assessment of the children's capabilities and try to put up any who have been coached beyond their real ability.

Mr Howard adds that nobody benefits if a child is accepted and then cannot keep up.

"This kind of pressure is fantastically destructive for children," says Peter Kendall, an education psychologist who runs Child Consultants, which assesses children. "The message they absorb is 'Mummy doesn't love me because I'm not good.' Stress symptoms appear: poor sleeping, loss of appetite, nail biting, headaches, facial twitches. What is needed is a healthy dose of cynicism which is something parents can be notoriously short on where their own offspring are concerned."

Please pass the cider

PLANS to replace traditional school meals for Somerset children from low-income families with a privatised service offering Marmite sandwiches, fairy cakes and nuts has set off a row between the county's education and health authorities.

School meals have been scrapped as part of a £4.6 million package of education cuts, but the new service will meet the county's obligations to 4,000 children who qualify for free meals. The first menu suggested by the private service was said by the health authority to contain too much fat and sugar, and too little protein and iron. It might have even been fatal for five-year-olds, who could choke on the peanuts offered, it warned.

The menus have now been changed, substituting snacks such as pizzas and apples for the Marmite sandwiches, but not before the county council made its own attack on the health officials. Roger Smith, the county council spokesman, says: "We sent the health authority details of the winning contract and invited them to help us with the fine tuning. We wanted their guidance. We find it an astonishing lack of professional propriety for them to go to the media with their views when they have not had the courtesy to reply to us."

Guide to blindness

SCHOOLS throughout Britain are being sent an information pack today to help children understand the problems of blindness. The material, produced by the Royal National Institute for the Blind, is the first publication on the subject to meet national curriculum attainment targets.

Laughing sailors

ALL school parties will be admitted free to the National Maritime Museum, in Greenwich, on Comic Relief on March 15. The museum's education department has devised a range of activities to put fun into the national curriculum. The department hopes to attract 500 pupils, each of whom will be given a red nose.

No longer skint

STUDENTS at Keele university are being asked to sell their skin at £5 a slice to help biochemists researching new forms of treatment. By the end

of last week, a dozen undergraduates had been paid for a "painless operation" to remove small areas of skin for use in psoriasis research. Harold Yardley, the biochemist whose research is benefiting, says: "The money is paid out to ensure we have enough skin to test."

Brains and beauty

ADENIKE Oshinowo, a 24-year-old Essex university student, has turned down a chance to take part in the Miss Universe competition in Japan next month because the finals clash with her own finals in politics. She hopes to get her BA this summer.



A former model, Miss Oshinowo (pictured above), was last month voted the most beautiful girl in Nigeria. She will content herself with entries for the Miss World and Miss International continental competitions later this year.

Welsh wisdom

POWYS, the county that levies the lowest poll tax in Wales, has been shown to have the principality's smallest classes in primary and secondary schools, as well as spending the most on primary education.

Robert Bevan, the county's director of education, says: "Powys shows that a high quality and efficient service can be provided at a reasonable cost when there is a firm commitment to management efficiency among the councillors and officers."

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE (University of London)

Chair in Human Nutrition

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & POLICY

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is one of the world's premier institutions in the fields of public health and tropical medicine. It is currently undergoing major restructuring and reform.

This new strategy embraces exciting initiatives in the Department of Public Health & Policy, one of the four large multi-disciplinary departments in the School, under the direction of Professor Patrick Vaughan, Head of Department. The Department plans a continued expansion of its activities during the 1990s, particularly with regard to Europe, focusing on health policy, and the evaluation of health and health programmes.

The Department encompasses five research units working on health policy, health services research, health promotion sciences, human nutrition and environmental health. It will be responsible for the organization of five Master of Science degrees and it has a large PhD research degree training programme. The Department has close links with the National Health Service and it has both national and international health activities.

The School has re-established this Chair, previously held by Dr John Waterlow FRS, in order to lead and build the Department's teaching and research in Human Nutrition during the 1990s, particularly within Europe. The post would suit an applicant with experience in both the clinical and public health aspects of human nutrition who also has strong interests in policy studies. An ability to work with multidisciplinary staff and to establish new research programmes will be required.

Applicants are invited to telephone Professor Vaughan on 071-927 2255 for an informal discussion. Formal applications should be sent to the Personnel Officer, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT (Telephone 071-927 2420) from whom further particulars may be obtained. Closing date 12 April 1991.



KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

Department of Classics

CHAIR OF GREEK LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Applications are invited for the established Chair of Greek Language and Literature in the Department of Classics which will become vacant on 1st October 1991. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the teaching of the course. Applicants should be well-qualified academically in a field relevant to the course, particularly European Studies or Management Studies. Some knowledge of Japanese language, society, culture and business environment would be an advantage.

Details and application forms may be obtained from the Director of the Department for Continuing Education, Rawley House, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JA. (Fax: 01865 273000). Completed applications should be sent by 8 April 1991.

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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL

CHAIR OF MEDICINE

Applications are invited for the established Chair of Medicine in the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, in succession to Professor Sir Colin Doherty who has been appointed Dean of the School from 1 October 1991. The person appointed, in addition to acting as Head of the Academic Department of Medicine, will be Director of Services for Medicine in the Hammersmith and Queen Charlotte's Special Health Authority.

Informal enquiries about this post should be addressed to the present Dean of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Professor D N S Kerr (telephone 081 740 3200), from whom further particulars are available. Letters of application should be accompanied by a full curriculum vitae and an outline of the applicant's research proposals (ten copies) together with the names and addresses of three referees, and should be sent to the Deputy Secretary, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Du Cane Road, London W12 0NN. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 19 April 1991.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In association with Green College

University Lectureship in Applied Social Studies (Social Work)

Applications from graduates with a qualification in Social Work are invited for this post, tenable from 1 September 1991 or as soon as possible thereafter. Stipend according to age on the scale £12,086 to £23,619 per annum.

The successful candidate may be offered a fellowship by Green College.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mrs. S.J. Oyon, Department of Applied Social Studies and Social Research, Barnet House, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2ET. Applications (eight copies, one for overseas candidates) should be submitted to the Director of the Department of Applied Social Studies and Social Research by 27 March 1991.

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UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN ASSOCIATION WITH RAWLEY HOUSE

DIRECTOR: DIPLOMA IN EUROPEAN STUDIES

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the University's new Diploma Course in European Studies aimed primarily at incoming managers. The initial appointment will be for a term of three years. The University will consider filling the post by secondment, either from within the University, or by arrangement with another organisation. The stipend will be on the scale £12,086 to £23,619. The Post will carry with it a Fellowship of Rawley House.

The successful candidate will direct the diploma course, take responsibility for the necessary academic arrangements and be expected to contribute to the teaching of the course. Applicants should be well-qualified academically in a field relevant to the course, particularly European Studies or Management Studies. Some knowledge of Japanese language, society, culture and business environment would be an advantage.

Details and application forms may be obtained from the Director of the Department for Continuing Education, Rawley House, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JA. (Fax: 01865 273000). Completed applications should be sent by 8 April 1991.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

Department of International Relations

LECTURESHIP IN SOVIET DOMESTIC POLITICS

Applications are invited for the post of lecturer in Soviet Domestic Politics, under the aegis of the Centre for Russian Studies and East European Studies. Candidates with a special research interest in the nationalities question would be particularly welcome, though those with other specialisations should not be discouraged from applying. Candidates must be proficient in the relevant language or languages. It would be helpful if successful candidates also had some interests in the external relations of the Soviet Union and other East European countries. This lectureship is being established as a result of the University's successful bid for one of the ten lectureships created with the help of Government funding by the British Council.

The Lecturer appointed will be paid on either the Lecturer Grade A scale £12,086 to £16,786 per annum or the Grade B scale £17,465 to £23,611 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Head of Personnel Services, The University, College Gate, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9AJ. Tel: 76541. Fax: 76540. To whom completed forms should be sent by a letter of application and a CV should be returned to arrive not later than Friday 29 March 1991.

The University operates an Equal Opportunities Policy.

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POSTS

UNIVERSITY OF READING

DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL LIAISON

Applications are invited for this appointment, the duties of which involve promoting opportunities for the University to collaborate with industrial companies, with particular emphasis on the exploitation of inventions, consultancy and contract research. The post is full time. Salary up to £26,471 p.a. together with a benefits related bonus of up to £7,000 p.a. Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from the Personnel Officer, University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 217, Reading, RG6 2AH, telephone (0734) 314151. Closing date 31st March 1991.

Please quote Ref P97

IRISH PEACE INSTITUTE

CHAIR OF PEACE AND CO-OPERATION STUDIES

The three constituent colleges of the University of Limerick are Business, Engineering & Science and Humanities. The worldwide campus is located at the heart of the 650-acre Plascy Technological Park on the east bank of the Shannon.

The College of Humanities has a student enrolment in excess of 100 and offers programmes of teaching and research to doctoral level.

This newly created Chair, endowed by the Irish Peace Institute, is being established within the College of Humanities at the University. The person appointed to fill the Chair, as the Irish Peace Institute Professor of Peace and Co-operation Studies, will be expected to teach on existing courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level and to design and develop new programmes of teaching and research in peace and co-operation studies.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates for the above post. They should hold a doctorate in an appropriate field of study and have a strong research and publications record in the theory and practice of conflict-resolution, peace-building and managed people to people co-operation.

An attractive remuneration package reflecting the importance of the appointment will be negotiated with the successful candidate.

Application material, available from the Personnel Department, University of Limerick, Plascy Technological Park, Limerick, Ireland, should be completed and returned by Friday, 6th April 1991.

CRICKET

'Archaic' covering scheme dismays England officials

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN COLOMBO

ENGLAND A were left frustrated yesterday when the umpires ruled that play on the third day of the third unofficial Test match here could not start until 25 minutes after tea. England believed that a start was feasible more than three hours earlier. Only 40 minutes of play was possible before Sri Lanka A accepted an offer to go off for lunch.

By then they were 48 for one in reply to the England first innings of 306. With two days left the match seems certain to be drawn, which would leave the series undecided after two earlier draws. As the players returned to their hotel, a tropical storm broke and rain continued for several hours, which did not augur well for a prompt restart.

Today was originally scheduled to be a rest day but following the assassination on Saturday of Ranjan Wijeratne, the Sri Lankan defence minister, England agreed to a request to play the match through without interruption. Wednesday, the day on which the game was due to end, has been declared a national day of mourning.

Bad light followed by thunderstorms had also brought an early finish on Saturday and more than six hours have now been lost in the match. Water that had seeped onto a pitch protected

by plastic sheets accounted for yesterday's long wait before play could commence.

Bob Bennett, the tour manager, said England were willing to play by noon and it was disappointing that the umpires had waited another three-and-a-half hours. He said he would be recommending in his tour report that the Sri Lankan authorities should consider improved covering arrangements.

Keith Fletcher, the team manager, described the covering as "archaic" and said arrangements had remained unchanged in the nine years since Sri Lanka achieved Test status. "The covering is not adequate for a Test match ground," Fletcher said. He also thought the umpires had acted prematurely in their bad light decision.

Most of the delay was caused by a wet patch at one end in a bowler's footlock about a foot outside a left hander's off stump and on a half-volley length. It was still damp when play did start.

England used their three seamers during the ten overs possible and the batsmen were untroubled by the pitch's behaviour. "I do not blame the Sri Lankans for not wanting to play," Fletcher said. "But we could have started three hours earlier than we did

and there would have been a lot more in the pitch."

Overall this has been a tedious match with England occupying the crease on Saturday for a further 70.5 overs as they added 114 runs. Their final score represented a good recovery from 59 for four but a little more enterprise by the later batsmen would not have been amiss and might even have been more productive.

Hussain and Thorpe did not stay long, their fifty-wicket stand finally being broken by 144. Hegg and Newport added 51 in 135 minutes and Iltis and Pick put on 36 in 69 minutes for the last wicket. All the arguments, though, have now been rendered academic by the thunderstorms.

ENGLAND A: First Innings
D J Bledsoe c Ranjith b Hussain 8
H Morris c Ranjith b Hussain 8
R J Bailey c Ranjith b Hussain 20
M Thompson b Hussain 11
N Hussain b Hussain 77
M Thompson b Hussain 66
P J Newport b Hussain 28
P J Newport b Hussain 28
M C Pick not out 12
R A Pick not out 12
Extras (b 4, lb 13, w 1, nb 7) 25
Total 306
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-24, 3-24, 4-24, 5-24, 6-24, 7-24, 8-24, 9-24, 10-24, 11-24, 12-24, 13-24, 14-24, 15-24, 16-24, 17-24, 18-24, 19-24, 20-24, 21-24, 22-24, 23-24, 24-24, 25-24, 26-24, 27-24, 28-24, 29-24, 30-24, 31-24, 32-24, 33-24, 34-24, 35-24, 36-24, 37-24, 38-24, 39-24, 40-24, 41-24, 42-24, 43-24, 44-24, 45-24, 46-24, 47-24, 48-24, 49-24, 50-24, 51-24, 52-24, 53-24, 54-24, 55-24, 56-24, 57-24, 58-24, 59-24, 60-24, 61-24, 62-24, 63-24, 64-24, 65-24, 66-24, 67-24, 68-24, 69-24, 70-24, 71-24, 72-24, 73-24, 74-24, 75-24, 76-24, 77-24, 78-24, 79-24, 80-24, 81-24, 82-24, 83-24, 84-24, 85-24, 86-24, 87-24, 88-24, 89-24, 90-24, 91-24, 92-24, 93-24, 94-24, 95-24, 96-24, 97-24, 98-24, 99-24, 100-24, 101-24, 102-24, 103-24, 104-24, 105-24, 106-24, 107-24, 108-24, 109-24, 110-24, 111-24, 112-24, 113-24, 114-24, 115-24, 116-24, 117-24, 118-24, 119-24, 120-24, 121-24, 122-24, 123-24, 124-24, 125-24, 126-24, 127-24, 128-24, 129-24, 130-24, 131-24, 132-24, 133-24, 134-24, 135-24, 136-24, 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